

President Barack Obama, accompanied by Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan checks for rain during their joint news conference in the Rose Garden of the White House in Washington, Thursday, May 16, 2013.
(AP Photo/Pablo Martinez Monsivais)

Obama promises action on scandals; GOP balks

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama, seeking to regain his footing amid controversies hammering the White House, named a temporary chief for the scandal-marred Internal Revenue Service

Thursday and pressed Congress to approve new security money to prevent another Benghazi-style terrorist attack. The efforts did little to satisfy Republicans, who see the controversies as a golden

opportunity to attempt to derail Obama's already troubled second-term agenda. House Speaker John Boehner suggested the White House had violated the public's trust, and he prom-

ised to "stop at nothing" to hold the administration accountable. "Nothing dissolves the bonds between the people and their government like the arrogance of power here in Washington," Boeh-

ner said. "And that's what the American people are seeing today from the Obama administration — remarkable arrogance."

Continued on Page 3

Afghanistan:

Suicide car bomb kills 15, including 6 Americans

KATHY GANNON

KAY JOHNSON

Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)

— A suicide car bombing tore through a U.S. convoy in Kabul on Thursday, killing at least 15 people including six Americans in a blast so powerful it rattled the other side of the Afghan capital. U.S. soldiers rushed to help, some wearing only T-shirts or shorts under their body armor.

A Muslim militant group claimed responsibility for the morning rush hour attack, saying it was carried out by a new suicide unit formed in response to reports that the U.S. plans to keep bases and troops in Afghanistan even after the 2014 deadline for the end of the foreign combat mission.

The group, Hizb-e-Islami, said its fighters had stalked the Americans for a week to learn their routine before striking — a claim which raises questions about U.S. security procedures.

Two children were among nine Afghan civilians killed in the attack.

"I can't find my children. They're gone. They're gone," their father screamed before collapsing to the ground as neighbors swarmed around to comfort him.

Two American soldiers were killed, as were four American civilian contractors with DynCorp International. DynCorp, a U.S. defense contractor based in Falls Church, Va., said its employees were working with U.S. forces training the Afghan military when the blast occurred.

It was the deadliest attack to rock Kabul in more than two months and followed a series of other assaults on Americans, even as U.S.-led forces are focusing more on training while leaving the fighting militants to their Afghan counterparts.

Thursday's bombing pushed the monthly toll for the U.S.-led coalition to 18, making May the deadliest

month so far this year. By comparison, 44 international troops were killed in the same period last year. The overall number of coalition deaths has dropped as Af-

ghan forces increasingly take the lead. The suicide bomber detonated his explosives-laden car at about 8 a.m. and set nearby buildings on fire. The blast

left body parts scattered on the street along with the mangled wreckage of one of the U.S. vehicles. Kabul Deputy Police Chief Daud Amin said it was dif-

ficult to count the dead. "We saw two dead bodies of children on the ground," Amin said. "But the rest of the bodies were scattered around." □



A U.S. soldier arrives to the scene where a suicide car bomber attacked a NATO convoy in Kabul, Afghanistan, Thursday, May 16, 2013. A Muslim militant group, Hizb-e-Islami, claimed responsibility for the early morning attack, killing many in the explosion and wounding tens, police and hospital officials said. The powerful explosion rattled buildings on the other side of Kabul and sent a pillar of white smoke into the sky in the city's east.

(AP Photo/Anja Niedringhaus)

Pentagon: US still in armed conflict with al-Qaida

DONNA CASSATA

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP)

— The United States remains in armed conflict with al-Qaida and its affiliates, a fight likely to last a decade or two, senior Pentagon officials told Congress on Thursday in arguing against changes to the 2001 military force law used in the war on terror.

Acting General Counsel Robert Taylor and Michael Sheehan, an assistant secretary of defense for special operations, said the authorization for the use of military force is an effective

law and expressed concerns that any congressional revisions would restrict combatant commanders. The law "suits us very well," Sheehan told the Senate Armed Services Committee. Republicans, Democrats and civil libertarians expressed serious concerns that the law — enacted just days after the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks — amounts to a blank check for the president. More than a decade after the law, President Barack Obama has used it to target terrorists worldwide with fatal drone strikes, including on Ameri-

cans overseas.

The law gave President George W. Bush the authority to launch the invasion of Afghanistan and target al-Qaida, saying the commander in chief has the authority to attack "nations, organizations or persons he determines planned, authorized, committed or aided the terrorist attacks that occurred on Sept. 11, 2001, or harbored such organizations or persons, in order to prevent any future acts of international terrorism against the United States by such nations, organizations or persons."

The issue came to the forefront earlier this year as Sen. Rand Paul, R-Kentucky, waged a nearly 13-hour filibuster of John Brennan's nomination for CIA director over the president's authority to use drones in the United States. The Senate eventually confirmed Brennan. Lawmakers have argued for changes to the law to deal with emerging threats and ensure greater congressional oversight. Sen. John McCain, a leading Republican, said the authority in the law is out of proportion and no longer applies. □

Justice Dept. faulted over terrorism list

PETE YOST

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government allowed “a small but significant number” of terrorists into America’s witness protection program and then failed to provide the names of some of them for a watch list that’s used to keep dangerous people off airline flights, the Justice Department’s inspector general says. As a result of the department’s failure to share information with the Terrorist Screening Center, some in the witness protection program who were on a government “no-fly” list were allowed to travel on commercial flights, the department’s watchdog said. The FBI-managed screening center is the clearinghouse for information about known or suspected terrorists. In a briefing for reporters Thursday, the Justice Department said it had remedied the problem with a restrictive travel policy that prohibits program participants with no-fly status from traveling on commercial flights. The department declined to say how many people in the program actually flew. While people involved in terrorism cases have long been eligible for federal witness protection, the Justice Department wouldn’t say how many have been in the program. The inspector general’s report said it was “a small but significant number.” The Witness Security Program, or WitSec as it is known, protects witnesses from the people and organizations against whom they have testified. The U.S. Marshals Service provides cooperating witnesses with new identities. Over the past two decades, the program has been significant in the government’s efforts to prosecute terrorists responsible for the 1993 World Trade Center bombing, the 1995 bombing in Oklahoma City and the 2009 New York City subway suicide-bomb plot. □

Obama promises action on scandals; GOP balks

Continued from front

The targeting of conservative political groups by the IRS and new questions about the deadly attack on the U.S. diplomatic mission in Benghazi, Libya, last year — along with the Justice Department’s seizure of journalists’ phone records — have consumed the White House for nearly a week. Of the three controversies, the president’s advisers see the IRS matter as the most likely to linger. At least three congressional committees are planning investigations into the agency that touches the lives of nearly every American. Obama, who was criticized by both opponents and allies for his measured initial response to the IRS targeting, vowed to ensure the agency acts “scrupulously and without even a hint of bias.”

“I think we’re going to be able to fix it,” he declared during a joint news conference with Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

Soon afterward, Obama appointed senior budget official Danny Werfel to temporarily run the IRS, one day after Acting Commissioner Steven Miller’s forced resignation. The White House is expected to nominate a permanent commissioner later this year.

However, the president knocked down the prospect of appointing a special prosecutor to investigate the IRS, saying the congressional investigations and a separate Justice Department probe should be enough to nail down who was responsible for improperly targeting tea party groups when they applied for tax-exempt status.

Obama and Erdogan were questioned during a light but steady rain during Thursday’s outdoor event. As the rain picked up, the president summoned a pair of Marine guards to provide umbrellas for Erdogan and himself, joking, “I’ve got a change of suits, but I don’t know about our

prime minister.”

The news conference marked Obama’s first comments on the government’s widely criticized seizure of telephone records of reporters and editors of The Associated Press in an investigation of news leaks. The president spoke of the importance of striking a

balance between “secrecy and the right to know” but said he would make no apologies for trying to protect classified information that could put Americans at risk.

“I’ve still got 60,000-plus troops in Afghanistan, and I’ve still got a whole bunch

of intelligence officers around the world who are in risky situations,” he said. “Part of my job is to make sure that we’re protecting what they do, while still accommodating for the need for information.”

The president said he continues to have confidence in Attorney General Eric

attacks in Benghazi, which claimed the lives of the U.S. ambassador to Libya and three other Americans.

Obama, who angrily cast the investigations as a “sideshow” earlier this week, tried to turn the focus Thursday to Congress. He urged lawmakers to provide more money to strengthen security at U.S. diplomatic missions around the world.

“We need to come together and truly honor the sacrifice of those four courageous Americans and better secure our diplomatic posts around the world,” Obama said. “That’s how we learn the lessons of Benghazi. That’s how we keep faith with the men and women who we send overseas to represent America.”

The State Department is seeking about \$1.4 billion for increased security; the money would come primarily from funds that haven’t been spent in Iraq. It would include \$553 million for 35 more Marine Security Guard units, \$130 million for 155 diplomatic security agents and \$376 million for security upgrades and construction at new embassies.

Since the attack, Democrats have complained that Republicans cut \$300 million from the Obama administration’s budget request of \$2.6 billion for diplomatic and embassy security in 2012.

Congressional Republicans held new hearings on the Benghazi attacks last week, and a congressional official also released details of emails that GOP lawmakers said suggested an administration effort to downplay the prospect of terrorism in the election year attacks.

The White House, which has long disputed allegations of a cover-up, released 100 pages of documents Wednesday in an effort to put an end to protracted controversy.

However, the release of the emails didn’t quiet the GOP furor on Capitol Hill, and investigations continued to move ahead. □



House Speaker John Boehner of Ohio walks toward a stack of paper representing the 20,000 pages of Affordable Health Care Act regulations as he arrives for a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington, Thursday, May 16, 2013.

(AP Photo/Molly Riley)

Holder, who has been the target of intense criticism from lawmakers after the phone record subpoenas were made public.

The IRS and Justice Department controversies have coincided with a revival in the GOP-led investigations into the September

balance between “secrecy and the right to know” but said he would make no apologies for trying to protect classified information that could put Americans at risk.

“I’ve still got 60,000-plus troops in Afghanistan, and I’ve still got a whole bunch

Authorities arrest Uzbek man in Idaho terror case

TODD DVORAK
Associated Press

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — U.S. authorities in Idaho said Thursday they have arrested a man from Uzbekistan accused of conspiring with a designated terrorist orga-

nization in his home country and helping scheme to use a weapon of mass destruction.

The U.S. attorney's office said Fazliddin Kurbanov, 30, was arrested at an apartment complex in

south Boise on Thursday morning after a grand jury issued a three-count indictment as part of an investigation into his activities in Idaho and Utah.

The Idaho grand jury's indictment charges Kur-

banov with one count of conspiracy to provide material support to a foreign terrorist organization, the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan, and one count of conspiracy to provide material support to terrorists.

The indictment also alleges he possessed an unregistered explosive device.

A separate federal grand jury in Utah also returned an indictment charging Kurbanov with distributing information about explosives, bombs and weapons of mass destruction.

Kurbanov was being held in jail and is scheduled to appear in federal court in Boise on Friday morning.

Wendy Olson, the U.S. attorney in Idaho, said Kurbanov is the only person charged, and any potential threat was contained by his arrest.

"He was closely monitored during the course of the investigation," she said. "The investigation has been under way for some time."

Olson declined to share any other specifics of Kurbanov's alleged activities, including whether any potential terrorist threat or targets were domestic or abroad.

A news release from the U.S. attorney's office said Kurbanov is in the United States legally, but Olson declined to give details about his immigration status. It was unclear when he moved to Idaho or the extent of his activities in Utah. An Idaho telephone number registered to Kurbanov has been disconnected.

The Idaho indictment alleges that between August 2012 and May 2013, Kurbanov knowingly conspired with others to provide support and resources, including computer software and money, to the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan, a designated terrorist organization.

The alleged co-conspirators were not named.

In count two, the indictment alleges Kurbanov provided material support to terrorists, knowing that the help was to be used in preparation for a plot involving the use of a weapon of mass destruction.

The indictment also alleges that on Nov. 15, 2012, Kurbanov possessed an explosive device, consisting of a series of parts intended to be converted into a bomb. □

12 tornadoes tear through Texas; 6 dead

ANGELA K. BROWN
JAMIE STENGLE
Associated Press

GRANBURY, Texas (AP) — Twelve tornadoes touched down in several small communities in Texas overnight, leaving at least six people dead, dozens injured and hundreds homeless. Emer-

gency responders were still searching for missing people Thursday afternoon. On Thursday, authorities combed through debris in Granbury, while residents awaited the chance to see what was left of their homes. Witnesses described two badly hit neighborhoods as unrecognizable, with homes ripped from foundations and others merely rubble. Granbury, about 40 miles southwest of Fort Worth, bore the brunt of the damage. The National Weather Service gave a preliminary estimate of Wednesday night's violent system, saying a tornado in Granbury had wind speeds between 166 mph (267 kph) and 200 mph (320 kph). Other tor-

nadoes damaged nearby Cleburne and Millsap. Granbury, southwest of Fort Worth, bore the brunt of the damage, as the exceptionally powerful tornado tore through two neighborhoods around 8 p.m. Wednesday. Resident Elizabeth Tovar said fist-sized hail heralded the tornado's arrival and prompted her and her family to hide in their bathroom.

The weather service's pre-

liminary storm estimate was an EF-4, based on the Fujita tornado damage scale. An EF-5 is the most severe. Those who saw the destruction in the city's Rancho Brazos subdivision described it as unrecognizable. County Commissioner Steve Berry said Thursday he couldn't tell one street from another — some homes were ripped from foundations, others reduced to rubble. Half of

one home was torn away while the other half was still standing, glasses and vases intact on shelves. Trees and debris were scattered across yards, and fences were flattened. Sheriff Roger Deeds described the overnight hunt for bodies in Granbury.



Emergency personnel look through debris on near Granbury, Texas on Thursday, May 16, 2013. Ten tornadoes touched down in several small communities in Texas overnight, leaving at least six people dead, dozens injured and hundreds homeless. Emergency responders were still searching for missing people Thursday afternoon. (AP Photo/Rex C. Curry)

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"Some were found in houses. Some were found around houses," Deeds said. "There was a report that two of these people that they found were not even near their homes. So we're going to have to search the area out there." Seven people remain unaccounted and authorities hope they are with family or friends, Deeds said at a Thursday morning news conference. □

NY authorities probe money trail in smuggling ring

TOM HAYS

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A smuggling ring that made a fortune selling more than a

lars but so far we've only found a fraction of that," state Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman said while announcing enterprise cor-

chase of mass quantities of cigarettes from a Virginia wholesaler, authorities said. The cigarettes were hidden in a public stor-

will work to track it down wherever it went."

According to Kelly, one of the men previously ran a business in the 1990s that was partly bankrolled by the blind sheik; another was a "confidant" of Rashid Baz, the Lebanese immigrant who shot up a van full of Hasidic students on the Brooklyn Bridge in 1994, killing one; and a third lived in the same Brooklyn apartment as the secretary of a key Hamas fundraiser and leader in the 2000s.

Neighbors of the Ramadans in Ocean City, Maryland, described seeing about a dozen federal agents and New York Police Department officers show up at the brothers' homes. The investigators brought one man out in handcuffs and also pulled

out a safe, put it on the front porch and used tools to break into it.

The neighbors, Charles Mack and Roger Flather, said in phone interviews that one officer turned to them and asked as an aside, "Have you ever seen a million dollars in cash?" The Ramadans were being held without bail pending extradition to New York. The names of their attorneys were not immediately available. The total amount of money involved in the scheme remains unclear. But financial records show the traffickers deposited at least \$55 million in proceeds in small financial institutions in and around Ocean City, and authorities estimate that the loss in state tax revenue was around \$80 million. □



A police officer leads suspects in a smuggling ring that made a fortune selling more than a million of cartons of untaxed cigarettes in New York, chained together through the corridors of the Federal Courthouse in the Brooklyn Borough of New York, Thursday, May 16, 2013. Authorities say the group may have funneled some of the illicit proceeds to terrorist groups.

(AP Photo/New York Daily News, Craig Warga)

million cartons of untaxed cigarettes in New York may have funneled some of the illicit proceeds to terrorist groups, authorities said Thursday. The traffickers lived modestly and had alleged links to known terrorists, including Omar Abdel-Rahman, the blind cleric serving a life sentence for conspiring to blow up New York City landmarks. That combination has raised concerns about where the money went. "We know they made they made tens of millions of dol-

ruption and other charges against 16 people, all Palestinian immigrants.

Two reputed ringleaders, brothers Basel and Samir Ramadan, were arrested Wednesday in Maryland. Investigators found \$1.5 million — some stashed in black plastic garbage bags — in the home and car of Basel Ramadan, authorities said.

A yearlong investigation found that the Ramadans and other suspects formed a distribution chain that began with the pur-

age facility in Delaware, where distributors picked up about 20,000 cartons a week for sale at markets throughout New York City and at grocery stores in up-state New York.

Schneiderman and city Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly told reporters that similar schemes in the past have raised money for militant groups like Hamas and Hezbollah.

"This is not the end of our investigation," the attorney general added. "We are following the money. We

Mom chases down abductor; girl safe

ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico (AP) — A mother whose

4-year-old was being abducted chased the suspect down and crashed her vehicle into his car, triggering a manhunt and the arrest of the suspect, police said Thursday.

The young girl was playing in her yard at an apartment complex in Albuquerque, New Mexico, when a group of teenagers saw the kidnapping and ran to alert the girl's mother.

The family called police and the mother jumped into her vehicle and gave chase for about seven

miles (11 kilometers), unaware the man had pushed the girl out of the Silver Buick before fleeing the apartment complex. The girl was found wandering nearby, uninjured, police said.

The mother followed the suspect and finally rammed into his car near an intersection. He fled on foot.

The attempted kidnapping sparked a massive manhunt Wednesday as more than two dozen officers went door-to-door in the area looking for the suspect. A helicopter with

heat-sensor cameras also was sent in for the search, authorities said.

Police arrested David Hernandez, 31, on Thursday afternoon and he was charged with kidnapping, police spokeswoman Tasia Martinez said.

It was not known if Hernandez had an attorney. Police were also investigating a possible connection to the abduction and sexual assault of a 6-year-old from the same apartment complex last week. The suspect in that case was described as a male in a silver or gray vehicle. □

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Subpoena of AP records revives media shield bill

FREDERIC J. FROMMER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The controversy over the U.S. government's secret subpoena of Associated Press telephone records has revived legislation that protect journalists from having to reveal their sources to federal investigators — and the White House is endorsing the idea.

The proposal wouldn't provide blanket protection for a journalist from having to reveal who he or she spoke to confidentially. But the government would have to convince a federal judge that the confidential source had compromised national security in speaking to the journalist.

Sen. Chuck Schumer, a Democrat, says he and Sen. Lindsey Graham, a Republican, will reintroduce the so-called media shield bill pursued unsuccessfully four years ago. President Barack Obama said Thursday that the point of a media shield law was to strike the right balance between national security needs and a free press that "helps

our democracy function." "I think now's the time for us to go ahead and revisit that legislation," Obama said. "I think that's a worthy conversation to have, and I think that's important."



Editorial employees work in the newsroom at the headquarters of The Associated Press in New York.

(AP Photo/Mark Lennihan)

Back in 2009, after the House passed a media shield bill, the action shifted to the Senate, where the Obama administration lobbied to add provisions aimed at protecting national security. That led to a compromise bill that would

protect reporters' sources, but grant the government authority to override that in certain national security cases. Despite those concessions, the bill garnered the support of the Ameri-

of the seizure until after the fact, provoking angry responses this week from the company's president and CEO, other news outlets and members of Congress. The department hasn't said whether it got permission from a judge, but subpoenas are often issued by grand juries at the request of prosecutors.

Had a shield law been in effect, it might have forced the government to at least go through a federal judge to obtain the records.

The department collected the phone records in an attempt to find out sources for a May 7, 2012, AP story that disclosed details of a thwarted plot in Yemen to bomb a U.S.-bound airliner, around the anniversary of the killing of terrorist leader Osama bin Laden.

Under the shield bill, to get the information without notifying AP ahead of time, the government "would have had to show a judge that they needed this information, that they had an interest at stake that was valid, that they had evidence that notifying AP would really derail the

investigation," said Gregg Leslie, legal defense director for the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press. "And I think that would have been hard to do." The judge might have ordered the department to notify AP, Leslie said, which would have let the company go to court to fight the subpoena.

"And certainly, I would think with that kind of court hearing, the scope of this investigation would have been drastically narrowed," he said. The judge might have ordered that the records be turned over to him or her, so that the judge could limit the records that prosecutors had access to, Leslie said.

The 2009 compromise bill included a requirement that the journalist be given notice of the subpoena and an opportunity to be heard before the court, but with an exemption allowing judges to waive that for 45 days at a time if they determine the notice would pose a "substantial threat" to criminal or national security investigations, among other things. □

Obama: Military 'ashamed' about sexual assault

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama said U.S. military leaders told him they are "ashamed" of their failure to end sexual abuse in the armed services. Obama pledged to take all efforts to halt the abuse, which he said undermines the trust the military needs to be effective.

"They care about this, and they are angry about it," Obama said at the White House after he summoned Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel, Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Martin Dempsey and other leaders to discuss the problem. A Pentagon report that says up to 26,000 military members may have been sexually assaulted last year.

Earlier Thursday, the Army's top officer acknowledged

that his service is failing in its effort to stop the assaults.

"It is time we take on the fight against sexual assault and sexual harassment as our primary mission," Gen. Ray Odierno said.

In remarks to reporters after the meeting, Obama said he wants the military and others to explore every good idea to fix the problem. He said Hagel would consult with other militaries around the world.

Changing the culture of a male-dominated, change-resistant military that for years has tolerated sexism and sexist behavior is proving to be a challenging task — especially with women entering more combat roles.

As new sexual assault allegations emerged this week involving an Army soldier who was assigned to pre-

vent such crimes — the second military member facing similar accusations — the Pentagon said Hagel is working on a written directive to spell out steps aimed at resolving the growing problem.

But Obama, fuming at a news conference last week, warned that he wanted swift and sure action, not "just more speeches or awareness programs or training." Sexual offenders need to be "prosecuted, stripped of their position, court-martialed, fired, dishonorably discharged. Period," he said.

A new case emerged Thursday evening: The manager of the sexual assault response program at Fort Campbell in Kentucky was arrested in a domestic dispute and relieved of his post, authorities said. □



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House votes again to repeal health care law

JEREMY PETERS

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WASHINGTON — One by one, they queued up in the aisles of the House of Representatives, eager for their one minute to unload on President Barack Obama's signature legislative achievement.

For many Republicans, this was one of the major reasons for coming to Washington in the first place, and they were not going to miss their chance — whether it was their 37th time voting to repeal the 2010 health care overhaul, or their first.

"Obamacare is enforced by the IRS, probably the most feared federal agency in the United States government," said Rep. Michele Bachmann of Minnesota, offering one of the newest and more novel reasons Americans should fear the law. The dreaded Internal Revenue Service, she said, had just been caught targeting people from all walks of life: Christians, friends of Israel, people for less debt and more jobs, to name a few.

"We're all sworn to protect and defend the Constitution, and that's why today we have to end this horrible piece of legislation,"



Visitors inside the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in Cooperstown, N.Y. Critics say that Republicans spend too much time attempting to repeal President Obama's health care overhaul, with votes on bills to preserve the helium supply and modify coins that commemorate the National Baseball Hall of Fame some of the few accomplishments this year.

(Nathaniel Brooks/The New York Times)

added Bachmann, the repeal act's main sponsor. Other Republicans — 40 of them in all spoke Thursday — offered fresh explanations for why the law needed repealing, reasons that moved beyond the usual Republican opposition to it. Rep. Luke Messer, a freshman from Indiana, said he could not possibly summa-

rize in the minute allotted all that was wrong with the law. So he stuck with a cri-

tique declaring it "the biggest assault on the 40-hour workweek in this country in

a generation." Employers, he said, were cutting back their employees' hours in anticipation of what the new policies would cost them.

Rep. Robert Pittenger of North Carolina, another freshman, said the law was making medical students anxious about what awaited them upon graduation. Some undergraduates, he said, do not want to even go to medical school anymore because of the law. (The Association of American Medical Colleges, however, has reported a steady increase in medical school enrollment every year since 2008.)

Others stuck to more general critiques, like Rep. Tom Cotton of Arkansas, who called the law "abominable" and offered a suggestion to his fellow countrymen: "I urge the American people to vote out of office every politician who voted for it." □

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Merkel, Hollande at odds over Europe's way forward

GEIR MOULSON
Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — Germany and France recognize that their cooperation is key to overcoming Europe's persistent economic crisis, but comments Thursday by the leaders of the continent's

No. 1 and 2 economies suggested they still have diverging priorities. French President Francois Hollande argued that the 17-nation eurozone should integrate more, calling for greater pooling in the long run of political and finan-

cial resources. He favors easing back on debt reduction measures to help the economy grow. Chancellor Angela Merkel, who has rejected the idea of pooling European debt, says governments must first work on getting their

finances in order and making their economies more competitive through reforms. She stressed Thursday the importance of reforms in France. "What we need above all is a common understanding in Europe — and there unfor-

tunately isn't one yet — of what actually makes us strong and where growth comes from," Merkel said at a European policy forum in Berlin. Merkel and Hollande spoke a day after new figures showed that the eurozone contracted for the sixth straight quarter in the January-March period, its longest-ever recession, with nine of 17 member countries in recession. France was the latest addition to that list; Germany barely grew. Merkel's center-right government has faced persistent criticism for favoring a crisis response that focuses on debt reduction. Officials in Berlin insist that budget austerity has to be part of the answer, and that doing so doesn't conflict with growth in the longer-term. They also stress that structural reforms, for example to make labor markets more flexible, are just as important. Hollande, a Socialist, said eurozone countries should combine their political and financial resources to eventually create a common government with a budget and even the capacity to borrow. Germany has so far dismissed pooling public finances for fear that it would end up paying for financially weaker countries' mistakes. "If Europe doesn't move it falls over, or rather, it disappears from the map of the world," Hollande said at a press conference in Paris marking his first year in office. Some officials in Hollande's party have criticized Merkel, arguing she is unwilling to consider faster integration because she faces an election in September — the idea is not popular with Germans. Hollande took pains to say that the dispute with Merkel was political, not personal. "We have to find a balance between budgetary rigor and support for growth," Hollande said, adding that the debate with Germany "is a respectful dialogue." "We don't have the same convictions but we have the same responsibilities," he said. □



German Chancellor Angela Merkel attends a discussion panel on "making Europe strong" during the Europe forum conference, organized by German public-broadcaster WDR, in Berlin, Germany, Thursday, May 16, 2013. (AP Photo/Gero Breloer)

Cyprus may presell gas reserves to ease crisis

M. HADJICOSTIS
Associated Press

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Cyprus may presell the country's offshore natural gas reserves to raise cash quickly and pull it out of its deep financial crisis, the country's finance minister said Thursday. Harris Georgiades said the country's nascent gas sector still has some way to go before such weighty decisions are taken. But all

options that will help the country extricate itself from the tough terms of multibillion euro rescue package that it negotiated with its euro area partners and the International Monetary Fund last March will be poured over. "All possibilities will be examined within the framework of taking those decisions that will maximize the benefit for our economy," Georgiades told the Asso-

ciated Press in an interview when asked if the government is mulling such a gas presale. Cyprus energy officials estimate that Cypriot waters hold about 60 trillion cubic feet (1.7 trillion cubic meters) of gas, enough to cover domestic needs for decades and supply energy-hungry foreign markets. One recently discovered field that U.S. firm Noble Energy and Israeli partner Delek are developing is estimated to hold 5-8 trillion cubic feet (140-230 billion cubic meters) of gas. Oil and gas companies including Italy's ENI, France's Total and South Korea's Kogas have been licensed to search for mineral deposits off the island nation's southern coast and are expected to spearhead development of a gas

processing facility that will liquefy the gas for easier export. But Georgiades said any future gas revenue won't detract the government from enacting "whatever it takes" to fix a broken economy, including tackling an oversized public sector that had taken up nearly a third of all government spending. The Cypriot economy is projected to shrink by 13 percent of gross domestic product in the next couple of years and see joblessness rise to 14 percent. "We are very determined to take all necessary decisions irrespective of how unpopular we might be. It's not a popularity contest... It will not be easy, I'm not going to present a rosy picture," Georgiades said. □

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Watchdog: Israel trying to legalize settlements

JOSEF FEDERMAN

Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — An Israeli watchdog group on Thursday accused the government of taking steps to legalize four unauthorized settlement outposts in the West Bank, days before the U.S. secretary of state is set to arrive on a new peace mission.

The government announced its move this week in a filing to the Supreme Court, threatening to cast a shadow over Secretary John Kerry's visit. Kerry has been shuttling between Israel and the Palestinians in recent months in hopes of restarting peace talks.

Negotiations have been frozen for the past four years, in large part because of Palestinian opposition to Israeli settlement construction on occupied lands. The Palestinians say there is no point in negotiating while Israel continues to settle its citizens in the West Bank and east Jerusalem, territories captured by Israel in the 1967 Mideast war and claimed by the Palestinians for their future state.

More than 500,000 Israelis

now live in Jewish settlements, which are considered illegal or illegitimate by the international community. Several thousand settlers live in unauthorized outposts that Israel has promised to dismantle.

The anti-settlement monitoring group Peace Now has been pushing the government to carry out pledges made years ago to evacuate six unauthorized outposts.

In its latest response, the government indicated it is now looking into ways to legalize four of the communities: Maaleh Rehavam, Haroeh, Givat Assaf and Mitzpeh Lachish.

In the case of Haroeh, for example, it said Israel's defense minister had ordered officials to explore whether the outpost was built on "state land," potentially clearing the way for its legalization. Peace Now interpreted the government's response as a declaration of intentions to legalize the tiny communities, which are home to several dozen settler families.

"The government is trying to avoid the enforcement

of the law and to legalize the outposts instead of evicting them," said Hagit Ofra, a Peace Now spokeswoman. She called

ruling.

Israel's Defense Ministry, which oversees policy in the West Bank, and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanya-



An Israeli security officer scuffles with an ultra-orthodox Jew during a protest against military conscription of yeshiva students, in Jerusalem, Thursday, May 16, 2013.

(AP Photo/Bernat Armangué)

the move "a slap in the face" to Kerry.

She said the Supreme Court has scheduled a hearing on the matter for next week, though it is unclear when there will be a

hu's office both declined comment. U.S. officials had no immediate comment.

But the Palestinian foreign minister, Riyad Malki, said the Palestinians "will not stand silent" if Israel legal-

izes the outposts.

"We will resort to the United Nations. We will ask the U.N. Security Council to discuss this and take the needed measures," he said.

Over Israel's objections, the Palestinians last September won upgraded observer status at the United Nations. Since then, they have repeatedly threatened to use their upgraded status to seek admission to additional U.N. bodies, such as the International Criminal Court, and push for international legal action against Israel.

Kerry is scheduled to arrive early next week in hopes of finding a formula to relaunch the first substantive peace talks since late 2008. The U.S. has repeatedly criticized both Israeli settlement activity as well as Palestinian threats to pursue international legal action against Israel as being unhelpful.

Jewish settlers began building outposts in the 1990s to sidestep an Israeli commitment to stop building new settlements. □

Pope blasts "cult of money" tyrannizing those in poverty

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope Francis has denounced the global financial system, blasting the "cult of money" that he says is tyrannizing the poor and turning humans into expendable consumer goods.

In his first major speech on the subject, Francis demanded Thursday that financial and political leaders reform the global financial system to make it more ethical and con-

cerned for the common good. He said: "Money has to serve, not to rule!" It's a message Francis delivered on many occasions when he was archbishop of Buenos Aires, and it's one that was frequently stressed by retired Pope Benedict XVI. Francis, who has made clear the poor are his priority, made the comments as he greeted his first group of new ambassadors accredited to the Holy See. □








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Slower Chinese growth adds to pressure on leaders

JOE McDONALD
Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — Global economic malaise has knocked the stuffing out of Luo Yan's business making toy animals.

Sales of Hello Kitty dolls and plush rabbits have fallen 30 percent over the past six months, according to Luo, owner of Tongle Toy Enterprise, which employs 100 people in the southern city of Foshan, near Hong Kong. Orders from the United States and debt-crippled Europe are down 80 percent.

"We don't talk about profits anymore," said Luo.

China's shaky recovery is losing steam, adding to pressure on its new leaders to shore up growth after a surprise first-quarter decline and launch new reforms to support entrepreneurs like Luo who create its new jobs and wealth.

"The current leadership is not taking this issue very easily," said Li Daokui, a Tsinghua University economist and former central bank adviser, at a financial conference organized by investment bank CLSA. "This is their first item: Make sure the economy doesn't slow down too much," Li said. "Second, regenerate the enthusiasm for reform."

President Xi Jinping and other leaders have pledged to make the economy more productive but have yet to make clear how far they will go in curbing the dominance of state industry and making other changes reform advocates say are required. It is a politically thorny challenge but reform might be driven by slowing growth and concern about tensions due to a lack of new jobs.

April factory output and investment fell short of fore-

casts, adding to pessimism after forecasts of an upturn in growth were dashed by the decline in the first three months of the year, though to a still-healthy 7.7 percent from the previous quarter's 7.9 percent.

"Slow growth may trigger

government companies. Market-style reforms were a low priority over the past decade. Beijing focused on building state-owned corporate giants in banking, energy and other fields and then responding to the 2008 global crisis by



A worker takes a rest near a pile of plastic foam tableware in a factory in Shanghai, China. President Xi Jinping and other leaders have pledged to make the economy more productive but have yet to make clear how far they will go in curbing the dominance of state industry and making other changes reform advocates say are required. (AP Photo)

reform," said Citigroup economist Minggao Shen in a report.

Potential areas for change range from allowing private competitors into state-run industries such as telecoms to making it easier for entrepreneurs to get credit from banks that now channel most lending to

pumping up government spending. But the World Bank and other advisers warn that if it fails to allow more free-market competition, annual growth could fall as low as 5 percent by 2015 — dangerously low for a Communist Party that needs rising living standards to underpin its claim

to power.

Any change that threatens to cut revenue or resources for state industry will face political opposition. Analysts expect no major decisions until a party meeting in October. Li, the former central bank adviser, said party leaders are trying to settle on a reform plan that can revitalize the economy while still winning agreement from politically influential factions.

"These people are true believers in reform," Li said. "They have a strong sense of urgency that unless reforms are done, then social discontent may brew and then create conditions for drastic changes which will do no favor to anybody — that is, revolution."

This week, the top economic official, Premier Li Keqiang, suggested Beijing favors reform instead of stimulus to pep up growth — a strategy that will take longer to show results. He echoed warnings by private sector analysts that government investment is losing its effectiveness, with each new dollop producing less growth.

"To achieve this year's development targets, there is

little room for stimulus policy or direct government investment, so it also must rely on market mechanisms," the premier said at a Cabinet meeting, according to a government statement.

Instead, he called for less "political power" in the economy to "motivate the creativity of market players," the statement said, without giving any details of possible changes.

Reforms would take time, making them "negative for growth and jobs in the near-term," said Citigroup's Shen.

China's growth still is stronger than the low single-digit expansions forecast in the United States, Europe and Japan. And dismay about its latest performance might reflect overly rosy forecasts and a narrow focus on economic output when Beijing also has other priorities such as improving social services and cleaning up China's battered environment.

But the impact of weaker factory production and less construction in the world's second-largest economy is starting to show at home and abroad. □

Greek hotel entertainer charged with stabbing boy

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — A young entertainer at a Greek island hotel was charged Thursday with attempted murder and theft for allegedly stabbing a Russian guest's child 20 times after the 12-year-old confronted him over a theft. The savage attack at a popular resort on Crete drew broad condemnation in the tourism-reliant country, and Greek hoteliers said they would cover the expenses of the boy's family in Greece for as long as his treatment lasts.

The Dutch suspect, who is 20, was formally accused by a prosecutor in the Cretan city of Iraklio and was jailed pending a court appearance next week.

The Russian boy was severely injured in Tuesday night's attack, and was flown to a children's hospital in Athens for emergency surgery. Doctors say he suffered spinal cord damage and extensive chest and leg wounds.

"He has very serious injuries," hospital chairman Haris Tomboulou said.

The boy had been on holiday with his mother at a five-star hotel in the Heraklion region in northern Crete. Police allege that the suspect stole the child's laptop computer and cellphone. They say that when the boy saw him with the gadgets, the Dutchman allegedly led him to a parking area, repeatedly stabbed him and left him for dead.

The boy's mother raised the alarm after her son went missing from the hotel. Police searched the area for

hours before finding the injured child at about 2 a.m. on Wednesday, lying behind disused piping and building material.

The Greek hoteliers' association issued a statement expressing regret at the "tragic ... but isolated incident." Tourism is a major source of income for Greece's battered economy, and accounts for about one in five jobs in the recession-mired country where unemployment is at a record high of 27 percent. □



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Venezuelans scrambling to find scarce toilet paper

FABIOLA SANCHEZ
KARL RITTER
Associated Press
CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)
 — Venezuelans scrambled to stock up on toilet pa-

per Thursday as fears of a bathroom emergency spread despite the socialist government's promise to import 50 million rolls.



A customer leaves a private super market with her purchases, including toilet paper, in Caracas, Venezuela, Wednesday, May 15, 2013. First milk, butter, coffee and cornmeal ran short. Now Venezuela is running out of the most basic of necessities _ toilet paper. Blaming political opponents for the shortfall, as it does for other shortages, the embattled socialist government says it will import 50 million rolls to boost supplies.

After years of economic dysfunction, the country has gotten used to shortages of medicines and basic food items like milk and sugar but the scarcity of bathroom tissue has caused unusual alarm. "Even at my age, I've never seen this," said 70-year-old Maria Rojas. She said she had been looking for toilet paper for two weeks when she finally found it at a supermarket in downtown Caracas. Thousands of rolls flew off the store's shelves as consumers streamed in and loaded up shopping carts Thursday morning. "I bought it because it's hard to find," said Maria Perez, walking out with several rolls of paper.

paper." Economists say Venezuela's shortages of some consumer products stem from price controls meant to make basic goods available to the poorest parts of society and the government's controls on foreign currency. President Nicolas Maduro, who was selected by the dying Hugo Chavez to carry on his "Bolivarian revolution," claims that anti-government forces, including the private sector, are causing the shortages in an effort to destabilize the country. The government this week announced it would import 760,000 tons of food and 50 million rolls of toilet paper. Commerce Minister Alejandro Fleming said "excessive demand" for tissue had built up due to a "media campaign that has

been generated to disrupt the country." He said monthly consumption of toilet paper was normally 125 million rolls, but current demand "leads us

down," he said. That was little comfort to consumers struggling to find bathroom supplies. Several supermarkets visited by The Associated Press in the capital on Wednesday and Thursday were out of toilet paper. Those that received fresh batches quickly filled up with shoppers as the word spread. "I've been looking for it for two weeks," Cristina Ramos said at a store on Wednesday. "I was told that they had some here and now I'm in line." Finance Minister Nelson Merentes said the government was also addressing the lack of foreign currency, which has resulted in the suspension of foreign supplies of raw materials, equipment and spare parts to Venezuelan companies, disrupting their production. "We are making progress ... we have to work very hard," Merentes told reporters Wednesday. Many factories operate at half capacity because the

currency controls make it hard for them to pay for imported parts and materials. Business leaders say some companies verge on bankruptcy because they cannot extend lines of credit with foreign suppliers. Merentes said the government had met the U.S. dollar requests of some 1,500 small- and medium-sized companies facing supply problems, and was reviewing requests from a similar number of larger companies. Chavez imposed currency controls a decade ago trying to stem capital flight as his government expropriated large land parcels and dozens of businesses. Anointed by Chavez as his successor before the president died from cancer, Maduro won a close presidential election April 14 against opposition candidate Henrique Capriles, who refused to accept the result, claiming Maduro won through fraud and voter intimidation. □

(AP Photo/Fernando Llano)

to think that 40 million more are required." "We will bring in 50 million to show those groups that they won't make us bow



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Puerto Rico coffee production plummets

DANICA COTO
Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — Coffee production in Puerto Rico has hit the lowest level ever in the island's history, leaving farmers and government officials worried about how to revive a once burgeoning industry amid a deep economic crisis. Farmers produced some 80,000 pounds (39,900 kilograms) of coffee during the most recent harvest, which represents only a third of local consumption, Agriculture Secretary Myrna Comas said Thursday. Production in previous years has fluctuated between 105,000 pounds (47,600 kilograms) and 150,000 pounds (68,000 ki-

lograms), according to department statistics. "We need to fortify this industry ... and restore its much-deserved standing," Comas said. "We were once known worldwide for the quality of coffee produced on this island." The U.S. territory has since been forced to import coffee from countries including Mexico and the Dominican Republic to meet local demand. The reasons behind the recent production drop are many, and farmers worry that few solutions will be found. One of the main problems is a severe shortage of coffee pickers, said Wilfredo Ruiz, president of the Puerto Rico Coffee Buyers & Growers Association. An estimated 35 percent of the crop is lost every year because there is no one to pick it, leading to millions of dollars in lost revenue, he said. "This keeps getting worse every day," he said. "There is no substitute for farm workers, and there won't be one. As people become educated, the last choice is to work in agriculture." The government previously tried to draft troubled teens and inmates as pickers, but the measures weren't considered successful. Comas said part of the problem was lack of coordination, with inmates being sent

from \$22 in 2005, he said. The government supplies farmers with two bags per 100 pounds (45 kilograms) of coffee produced, but Ruiz said the arrangement is flawed because farmers are not given enough fertilizer to protect the coffee plants that were not picked due to a lack of workers. The emergence of a pest that began attacking coffee fields in recent years also is being blamed for a drop in production, as well as the lack of workers to spray fields with pesticides, Ruiz said. He and other agronomists called on the government to provide more incentives to help revitalize the island's coffee industry. "During the previous administration, there



Guests inspect coffee plants at a coffee plantation in Puerto Rico. Coffee production in Puerto Rico has hit the lowest level ever in the island's history.

(Handout Photo)

several months too late to pick beans. She said she would revive the inmate program this year, as well as look at ways to increase salaries for coffee pickers. Another problem that led to the limited harvest was a lack of seeds, Ruiz said. Farmers buy locally produced seeds from greenhouses contracted by the government, but few seeds were available last year for unknown reasons, he said. In addition, a rise in the cost of fertilizer has led farmers to abandon their land or to use it on a limited basis, he said. Currently, a 100-pound (45-kilogram) bag costs about \$38, up

were no new coffee trees planted," said William Mattei, coffee sector president of the island's Association of Agronomists. "It's something that needs to be done." Some farmers have chosen to focus on the lucrative, high-quality coffee market to survive economically, while others are experimenting with cultivating coffee plants near coastal towns with high unemployment rates in hopes of luring workers, Mattei said. Currently, the majority of Puerto Rico's coffee is grown along the island's central mountain region, but many of those farms have been abandoned. □

from \$22 in 2005, he said. The government supplies farmers with two bags per 100 pounds (45 kilograms) of coffee produced, but Ruiz said the arrangement is flawed because farmers are not given enough fertilizer to protect the coffee plants that were not picked due to a lack of workers. The emergence of a pest that began attacking coffee fields in recent years also is being blamed for a drop in production, as well as the lack of workers to spray fields with pesticides, Ruiz said. He and other agronomists called on the government to provide more incentives to help revitalize the island's coffee industry. "During the previous administration, there

CARIBBEAN BRIEFS

Guilty plea in Antigua killing of US woman

ST. JOHN'S, Antigua (AP) — A man has pleaded guilty to killing a woman from the San Francisco Bay Area in Antigua as she made a stopover in the Caribbean island for her sister's wedding. Tishara Daniel made no statement as he entered his plea Wednesday to a charge of murder in the death of 29-year-old Nina Nilssen. The Director of Public Prosecutions has not said what sentence he will seek when the 27-year-old Daniel is scheduled to be sentenced on July 5. Nilssen was a graduate student at San Francisco State University. She was stabbed to death while going for a stroll near Pigeon Point Beach along the island's south coast.

Jamaican accused of scamming Canadian

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP) — A Jamaican woman has been charged with fraud after allegedly swindling an elderly Canadian man in a lottery scam. For years, numerous Jamaican fraudsters have conned mostly elderly Americans out of their retirement savings by promising that they've won millions in an international lottery but they need to wire a payment to cover taxes. Police say there could be a "worrying shift" of global locales targeted by Jamaican scammers. The 75-year-old victim from Alberta says he was persuaded to send \$30,000 to Jamaica. Suspect Santressa Kerr was arrested Wednesday at her home in northwest Jamaica.

Dominican cops rescue kids made to beg

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic (AP) — Law enforcement officials in the capital of the Dominican Republic say they have arrested 20 people accused of using children from Haiti to beg in the streets. Santo Domingo Prosecutor Yeni Reynoso said 58 children were rescued in a series of raids, mostly in a western neighborhood of the capital known as Los Alcarizos. Reynoso says children and young teens had daily quotas of money they had to collect in the street and turn over to their captors. Most of the adults detained in a series of raids Thursday were women from Haiti. She said authorities were trying to contact relatives to take the children back.

Guyana TV host to face trial in rape case

GEORGETOWN, Guyana (AP) — A former presidential candidate and popular talk show host in Guyana will stand trial on charges of raping a 7-year-old girl. A judge ruled late Wednesday that there is enough evidence against 63-year-old Chandra Narine Sharma for the case to go forward. Prosecutors have accused Sharma of giving the girl money after each alleged rape, which they say occurred from July 2003 to July 2004. Sharma has pleaded not guilty and is free on \$10,000 bail. He owns a TV station in the South American country but has not appeared on air because of health problems including diabetes and high blood pressure.

Jamaica cops deal poorly with mentally ill

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP) — An independent agency that investigates abuse allegations against Jamaica's security forces says the island's police need training in how to deal with mentally ill citizens. A report from the Independent Commission of Investigations says 75 percent of police confrontations with mentally ill suspects end in fatalities. It says six people believed to suffer from mental illnesses were killed by police in 2011. □



American Airline donates sports equipment to Graf van Zinzendorf

SAN NICOLAAS – Yesterday Airlines employees were at Graf van Zinzendorf elementary school in San Nicolas for a very special occasion. About 30 employees have taken the initiative to help out on various occasions, Desiree Geerman, lead agent for AA said, after contacting the school to find out what were some of their needs. American Airlines employees supplied the school basketballs, volleyballs and other sports equipment. Geerman added they were initially made aware of the situation because several their colleagues from San Nicolas had been participating in bake sales and other fundraisers for this very cause. These donations are something that the company's



employees have been proudly participating in for several years. □



Dyron's Holy Communion at Amazonia Churrascaria was an elegant affair



PALM BEACH – Having experienced holy mass for the first time, Dyron was given an elegant dinner party at Amazonia Churrascaria with over 40 family members and friends in attendance congratulating him on the beginning of his spiritual life as a member of his church community. The multi-generational Boekhoudt family enjoyed the rich and varied salad bar and the perfectly grilled meats carved and served by the parade of gauchos carrying giant skewers, over fine cocktails and wines. Pictured here, scenes from an unforgettable affair. □



Happy News from McDonald's on their famous Happy Meal



ORANJESRTAD - McDonald's announces their happiest news since the invention of the Happy Meal. The Happy Meal is now just Awg. 5.99! The Happy Meal, McDonald's world-famous meal for children, bringing smiles and delicious menu items to young people. This latest Happy Meal promotion is another example of McDonald's reaching out to meet the needs of children and families. The leading family restaurant

introduced their reduced-calorie Happy Meal locally. A first of its kind, the Happy Meal contains 10 percent less sodium in its ingredients, a smaller portion of fries and includes a fruit. In addition, the McDonald's Play Place offers a safe and fun environment for children to play. The Happy Meal lunch or dinner menu for children offers McNuggets, Hamburger, Cheeseburger, a Kids Fries, a beverage and a side of apple for dessert. For more information, the company also recently launched its Facebook and Twitter page where customers can find updated information on new product launches, campaigns and restaurant activities. Consumers can now "Like" the Facebook page McDonald's Curacao & Aruba, or follow McDonald's on Twitter - @McDonalds_CA. □

Beauty On The Beach

Sandra Santelmo

Living in Barcelona España She was born in Venezuela and her parents are born in Italy She works as a dentist in Spain. And this is her third visit in Aruba she is on vacation staying at a friends house

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PALM BEACH-Bugaloe Beach Bar & Grill are welcoming back Guests of the Week Rich and Joann Musto from Alexandria, Virginia. Rich and Joann fell in love with Aruba in 1992, coming back every year since then! The beautiful island, gorgeous weather and friendly people is what drew them back for 21 years already! Even though planning different activities every day during their stay on the island, Bugaloe is a daily must! Whether it's at night for some dinner and dancing, or in the morning recovering from the previous night with some bloody mary's, either way, the Bugaloe Crew always love it when they are there! The relationship between Rich, Joann and Bugaloe goes way back, when both Rich and Joann attended the Grand Opening of Bugaloe 7 years ago! They still remember it as an unforgettable night, dancing on the bar with friends made over the years. Rich and Joann's favorite menu item is the Crazy Fish Monday Grilled Red Snapper, which is always fresh and really tasty. This easily goes down with a Polar Beer for Rich and bartender Erik specialty: the Bacardi Rum Punch for Joann. The Bugaloe crew would like to thank Rich and Joann for being such loyal Bugaloe guests, and hope they will never go to Italy again! ☐



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The Casino at the Radisson hosts a magnificent Mother's Day!



PALM BEACH – The weekend activities at the Casino at the Radisson included various festivities with Mother's Day Bingo and the election of the Mother of the Year, among them. Lucky Mother of the Year won the privilege of playing free bingo at the Ca-

sino at the Radisson for the coming 52 weeks. Guests enjoyed the fun atmosphere, the generous hospitality extended by the casino and the live entertainment provided by Mariachi Lirios del Campo. Casino patron Heddy Ponson was the last bingo win-



ner, receiving a whopping \$1,000, which she reported made her day even more enjoyable. To top off the list of wee-



Occidental Hotels & Resorts set to embark upon improvement and refurbishment plan of hotels

Madrid, May 10, 2013. Following months of negotiations, Occidental Hotels & Resorts has concluded its long-term debt refinancing process through an agreement with 10 Spanish and International entities which have endorsed the company's 2012-2016 Business Plan.

The process, supervised by financial advisors of the firm IREA, which is subject to completion of the final terms, will allow the Company to refinance its debt, and initiate a significant amount in investments with an intensive renovation and improvement plan of its hotels and resorts within the chain.

Upon the successful completion of the refinance process, with the support of financial institutions, in accordance to its Business Plan, Occidental will focus the development of its hotel business activities over the coming years in 7

countries of the Caribbean and Central America (Aruba, Costa Rica, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Haiti and Mexico), where the Company manages 17 hotels, 12 of which are owned by the chain and 5 are under management agreements. Occidental Hotels & Resorts is also one of the leading companies in the time-share industry through its Occidental Vacation Club unit which has a portfolio of 23,000 members, mostly in the United States and Canada.

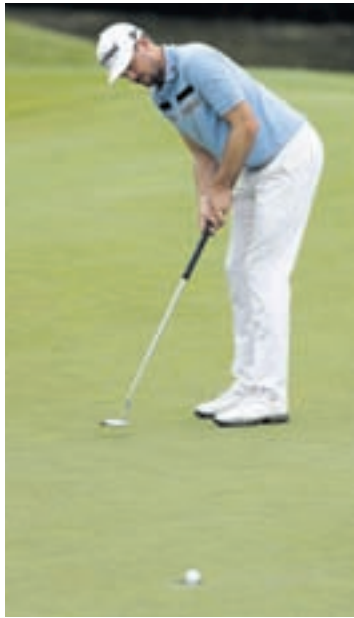
The commitment of the shareholders of Occidental Hotels & Resorts towards the Caribbean, and the agreement to terminate unprofitable operations in Spain, has permitted to reposition the Company at profitability levels that allow it to increase its competitive advantage. Between 2010 and 2012 the Company completed an

important consolidation effort that has allowed it to increase its EBITDA from \$29 million USD in 2010 (where the activities in Spain contributed to significant operating loss) to \$54 million USD in 2012. This process of improvement, as well as strategic realignment, coupled with the successful refinancing of its debt, allow Occidental to embark on a new phase of development of its business activities through new investments in asset upgrade, that will permit their positioning as one of the successful companies in the hotel business as well as the all-inclusive time-share segment across the different countries in the Caribbean. Occidental manages 6,000 rooms in 19 hotels in 8 countries in the Caribbean, Central America and Europe. The Company has more than 4,300 employees. □



kend winners Orlando Chin a Foeng who landed a mystery jackpot on the Penny Barn slot machine. It was one of three daily mystery jackpots at the casino, that day. Orlando is seen here in the picture with host Glen Baluarte

and slot technician Nelson Maduro as photographed by Orlando Vrolijk, Sales and Marketing Supervisor. The fully renovated casino, had just announced the reveal of its refreshed logo, as part of its rejuvenated look! □



Keegan Bradley sinks a putt on the fifth green for birdie during the first round of the Byron Nelson Championship golf tournament Thursday, May 16, 2013, in Irving, Texas.
Associated Press

Bradley opening with 60 at Nelson

STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Keegan Bradley had no thoughts of a course record, or the possibility of a 59, after consecutive bogeys in the middle of his opening round at the Byron Nelson Championship. Until his 136-yard wedge shot on his final hole Thursday.

"It was going right at it. (A 59) crossed my mind for a second, and it would be unbelievable if I buried this," Bradley said. "But I had 3 feet to shoot 60. I was actually very nervous, uncomfortable over it and thank God I made it." Bradley shot 10-under 60, completed by that short birdie at the 428-yard ninth hole, to break the TPC Four Seasons course record and match the best round ever at the Nelson.

Continued on Page 18



END IT LIKE BECKHAM

Beckham to retire from soccer at end of season

In this April 6, 2013 file photo, PSG's David Beckham celebrates after scoring a goal against Rennes during their French League One soccer match, in Rennes, western France.

Associated Press
Page 20

Italian Open

Nadal struggles to beat qualifier Gulbis

ANDREW DAMPF
AP Sports Writer

ROME (AP) — Six-time champion Rafael Nadal overcame one of the worst opening sets of his career to edge Latvian qualifier Ernests Gulbis 1-6, 7-5, 6-4 on Thursday and reach the Italian Open quarterfinals. Nadal's performance, and sometimes sluggish movement on the court, raised questions about whether he will be able to successfully defend his title at the French Open. The year's second Grand Slam starts in 10 days. Nadal will next face fourth-seeded David Ferrer, who advanced when Philipp Kohlschreiber of Germany withdrew because of dizziness. Top-ranked Novak Djokovic had a far easier time than Nadal, beating Alexandr Dolgoplov 6-1, 6-4 to improve his clay-court record this season to 8-1. Also, second-seeded Roger Federer breezed by Gilles Simon of France 6-1, 6-2. In women's action, Serena Williams routed 14th-seeded Dominika Cibulkova

6-0, 6-1 for her 21st consecutive win, matching the best streak of her career. In the other half of the draw, second-seeded Maria Sharapova swept aside No. 16 Sloane Stephens — the American who reached the Australian Open semifinals — 6-2, 6-1. Nadal, however, was far from his best, especially in the first set, in which Gulbis took a 5-0 lead and even had a point to close out the set at love. But Nadal, who has reached the final in all seven tournaments he has played since returning to the circuit in February from a seven-month break because of a left knee injury, eventually began to win the longer points while the carefree Gulbis started to commit more errors. Nadal won last week's Madrid Open but his run of eight consecutive titles in the Monte Carlo Masters ended last month with a straight-set loss to Djokovic in the final. Nadal said this week he now trains for about 50 minutes a day compared with two hours



Spain's Rafael Nadal returns the ball to Latvia's Ernests Gulbis during their match at the Italian Open tennis tournament in Rome, Thursday, May 16, 2013.

Associated Press

a year ago. "I really don't want to talk about my knee. I'm fine. I (fought) a lot to be where I am today," Nadal said. "These matches like today where you're in trouble all the time but you keep fighting for every ball, this victory means a lot. To have another one like this is very special." Gulbis had given Nadal trouble before, also taking a set off the Spaniard in four of their previous five meetings, all of which

Nadal won. For the first half of this match, Gulbis dominated with his big serve and forehand while Nadal made a series of forehand errors. At one point late in the first set, Nadal didn't even move when Gulbis returned his serve within reach. Gulbis held serve in all 17 games of his first two main-draw matches and Nadal didn't break him until he took a 5-3 lead in the second set. At times, Nadal

was returning so far behind the baseline that Gulbis was able to step into the court and push Nadal to the corners. "I thought I was the better player in the match," Gulbis said. "But he is the champion and, well, I lost against him in Indian Wells when I also thought I played better than him. He is solid and he didn't do anything special and I made mistakes and so he won." Nadal didn't agree with Gulbis' assessment. "Normally — I don't say always, but normally — the best player wins," Nadal said. "If the best player was the one who tried to find solutions against a player that tried to hit every ball very hard. ... I (kept) fighting and concentrating every moment. ... If that's something then probably the best player won." Gulbis has had success in Rome before, upsetting Roger Federer in the second round in 2010 and reaching the semifinals, where he lost a close three-set match to Nadal. □

Nelson

Continued on Page 18

He topped his career PGA Tour best by three strokes and equaled Phil Mickelson's opening 60 at Phoenix as the best round on the tour this season. After missing the fairways off the tees and making bogeys at Nos. 18 and then No. 1, the latter starting his back nine when he drove into a bunker and had a par putt lip out of the cup, Bradley was at 3 under. He made a 17-foot birdie putt at the 221-yard second hole, and was 7 under his final eight holes with an eagle-birdie-birdie finish. "It was rare to match up a ball-striking day and make everything. ... It happened today," Bradley said. "The hole looked huge. Even the putts I missed almost went in." The 60, with 10 birdies and an eagle 3 at the 542-yard



Keegan Bradley bounces his ball off his club as he waits his turn to putt on the second green during the first round of the Byron Nelson Championship golf tournament Thursday, May 16, 2013, in Irving, Texas. Bradley set the TPC Four Seasons course record with a 10-under par 60 in the opening round.

Associated Press

seventh, gave Bradley a three-stroke lead over 2011 Masters champion Charl Schwartzel among those who played morning rounds. Robert Karlsson, Harris English and Ted Potter Jr. all had 64s in the morning

rounds, which came after 1 1/2 inches of rain fell on the course overnight from a storm system that spawned 10 tornadoes and killed at least six people in North Texas. There was no significant damage to the course, where play-

ers were able to lift, clean and place golf balls in fairways. "Seems like you don't get many of those opportunities, so being out here first was a bit of an advantage," said Schwartzel, who hit all 18 greens in regulation. "So much rain, it softened up. Played long off the tee, but it's a big advantage going into the greens with the second shot. ... You could attack flags." Aaron Oberholser shot 60 in the second round of the 2006 Nelson on the Cottonwood Valley course across the street that used to be used the first two rounds. Sam Snead shot 60 in the 1957 tournament at Glen Lakes Country Club, which at the time tied the PGA Tour record. Five players have shot 59 in official PGA Tour events. Al Geiberger had the first in the 1977 Memphis Clas-

sic, while Paul Goydos and Stuart Appleby had the last three years ago. Ryo Ishikawa had the lowest round on a major tour, shooting a 12-under 58 on the Japan Tour in 2010. Bradley, the nephew of LPGA Tour great Pat Bradley (31 victories with six majors), got his first PGA Tour victory when he won a one-hole playoff with Ryan Palmer at the Nelson two years ago. Bradley has four consecutive top-10 finishes earlier this season, but missed the cuts in his last two tournaments. Palmer's opening 65 came two days after attending the funeral of one of his best friends, who was killed in a car accident last week. Palmer found out about Clay Aderholt's accident while at The Players Championship, where with a heavy heart and his friend's initials on his cap he tied for fifth. □

Anthony has 28, Knicks beat Pacers to stay alive

By BRIAN MAHONEY
AP Basketball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Carmelo Anthony scored 28 points to help the New York Knicks stay alive in the Eastern Conference semifinals with an 85-75 victory over the Indiana Pacers in Game 5 on Thursday night.

Reserves J.R. Smith and Chris Copeland each had 13 points for the Knicks, who trail 3-2 and will need a victory Saturday in Indiana to force a seventh game back here Monday. They are trying to become the ninth NBA team to overcome a 3-1 deficit to win a series.

Anthony, who didn't make a basket in the fourth quarter of either game in Indiana, made a jumper midway through the fourth quarter after Indiana closed within four points. He followed with two free throws, Raymond Felton made a layup, and the Knicks were never in jeopardy again.

Paul George had 23 points, six rebounds and six assists for the Pacers. They played without point guard George Hill because of a concussion and committed 19 turnovers.

But George battled foul trouble and couldn't contain Anthony quite as well as he had while the Pacers easily won the previous two games.

David West had 17 points and 10 rebounds for the Pacers, who were trying to reach the Eastern Conference finals for the first time since 2004.

The winner faces the defending NBA champion Miami Heat in a series that will start Wednesday.

New York didn't really shake its scoring slump, shooting only 41 percent from the field, but put together a few runs during the game to open just enough space against a Pacers team that shot 36 percent and was a dismal 19 of 33 at the free throw line. They clearly missed Hill after learning about four hours before the game they would be without him. Pacers coach Frank Vogel said Hill was hurt after a collision with Knicks center Tyson Chandler during the first half of Indiana's 93-82 victory on Tuesday. Hill finished the game and scored 26 points, but experienced some headaches and showed concus-

sion symptoms since and wasn't able to pass the league's concussion tests so he could play Thursday night. The Knicks went back to their regular lineup, reinserting Pablo Prigioni, after going with a bigger group in Game 4 in a futile effort to match Indiana on the boards. The smaller group did a better job, getting outrebounded only 43-40. The Knicks finally opened it up midway through the third quarter with a 12-4 run, started by Smith's bank shot and featuring a 3-pointer and follow shot from Copeland, who got more playing time while coach Mike Woodson gave little to veterans Amare Stoudemire and the slumping Jason Kidd, who missed his only shot and remains scoreless in the series.

Anthony made a jumper and a 3-pointer on his first two shots, and Iman Shumpert followed with another jumper for a 7-0 start. Smith got a big ovation when he checked in, which grew much louder when he made his first shot, dribbling back behind the arc for a 3-pointer that made it 17-12 with 2:56 left



New York Knicks' Carmelo Anthony, right, goes up for a shot against Indiana Pacers' Paul George in the first half of Game 5 of an Eastern Conference semifinal in the NBA basketball playoffs, at Madison Square Garden in New York, Thursday, May 16, 2013. Associated Press

in the opening quarter.

Smith has endured a miserable stretch since elbowing Boston's Jason Terry in the fourth quarter of Game 3 in the first round. Suspended for Game 4, he hasn't relocated his shot since, hitting 28 percent in the first four games and has been criticized for not being focused after he was seen out a nightclub with singer Rihanna the night before Game 1 - a day game.

He was only 4 of 11, but hit the jumper that started the Knicks' run in the third

quarter.

The Knicks extended their 19-15 lead after one to 32-23 on Copeland's 3-pointer with 7:06 remaining in the second. The Pacers chipped away for most of the half but couldn't take the large in part because of their sloppy free throw shooting, going 8 of 16 in the half that agonizingly wouldn't end when both Chandler and the Pacers' Sam Young committed fouls more than 30 feet from the basket in the final 2.4 seconds. □

Stock car cult figure Dick Trickle dies

STEVE REED

AP Sports Writer

CONCORD, North Carolina

(AP) — Dick Trickle, whose larger-than-life personality made him a cult figure among legions of stock-car racing fans, died of an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound, authorities said on Thursday. He was 71.

There is a lasting image of Trickle in the Winston 500 lighting up a cigarette while driving his car with his knees during a caution lap. He places the cigarette through a hole he carved in his helmet for a quick drag and exhales.

The green flag hits and out the window goes the cigarette butt and back to rac-

ing goes Trickle.

"Dick always had a cigarette lighter in his car," said fellow NASCAR driver Geoff Bodine.

The Lincoln County Sheriff's Office said authorities received a call believed to be from Trickle, who said "there would be a dead body and it would be his." Authorities tried to call the number back, but no one answered. Trickle's body was found near his pickup truck at Forest Lawn Cemetery in Boger City, North Carolina, about 65 kilometers (40 miles) northwest of Charlotte. Sheriff's Lieutenant Tim Johnson said foul play was not suspected.

"Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family and

friends of Dick Trickle on his passing today," NASCAR Chairman and CEO Brian France said. "Dick was a legend in the short-track racing community, particularly in his home state of Wisconsin, and he was a true fan favorite. Personalities like Dick Trickle helped shape our sport. He will be missed." Trickle earned his reputation as a successful short track driver before joining the Winston Cup series and earning rookie of the year in 1989 at age 48. He competed in more than 300 Cup races. Although he never won a Cup race and won only two Busch Series races, Trickle earned cult status in the 1990s.

Former ESPN anchor Keith

Olbermann would regularly mention where Trickle finished after talking about each NASCAR race. It caught on and drew snickers from race fans around the country. Bodine said there was only one way to describe Trickle, a native of Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin. "Fun," Bodine said. "Just plain fun."

Trickle was never one to be told how to live his life.

"It's all just sad," Bodine said in a telephone interview. "We don't understand why he would do this. Hopefully we will all learn why he would do that. There was something that triggered him to take his own life. We are all really saddened by this in the

racing community."

NASCAR does not keep track of short-track records, but according to the (Milwaukee) Journal-Sentinel, Trickle won more than 1,000 short-track races throughout the country during his prime. He was a seven-time winner in the regional ARTGO Challenge Series in the late 1970s and mid '80s. Trickle also captured the ASA AC-Delco Challenge Series in back-to-back years in 1984-85 before turning to Cup racing. "Dick Trickle was one of the best race drivers of the '80s, no one knew how many races he won," said Humpy Wheeler, the former president of Charlotte Motor Speedway. □

Beckham brought credibility, visibility to MLS

NANCY ARMOUR
AP National Writer

Ask someone in Asia or Europe a decade ago what they knew about the Galaxy, and odds are the answer would have been limited to planets or stars. Nowadays, it's likely to include a reference to "Beckham's team," the Major League Soccer franchise in Los Angeles.

By making the growth of football in the United States his pet project, David Beckham put the sport on a fast track, giving it the kind of legitimacy and visibility it would have taken decades to reach on its own. He spiked interest and attendance in MLS among both fans and corporate America, and sales of his jersey gave the league visibility around the globe.

"He brought relevancy and credibility, which is something that U.S. soccer, and maybe even more so Major League Soccer, has and continues to crave," said Alexi Lalas, an ESPN analyst who was general manager of the Los Angeles Galaxy when Beckham arrived in 2007. "When people think now about Major League Soccer, they think about David Beckham. When people think about Major League Soccer now, the first team they think of is the Los Angeles Galaxy and that is because of David Beckham and the power of that brand."

"I think, many years from now, we'll look back at the arrival of David Beckham as, not the most important and one of many, but certainly a very important platform from which Major League Soccer and soccer in general in the United States used to evolve."

And though Beckham said Thursday he will retire when the French season ends May 26, his impact in the United States will continue. Beckham was given the right to purchase an expansion MLS team, the second team in New York excluded, and has said repeatedly he plans to exercise that option when he's finished playing.

Contrary to the naysay-

ers who dismiss football as a game for kids to grow out of, the sport had already established a solid foothold when Beckham arrived. The United States hosted a successful World Cup in 1994. MLS was more than a decade old, and there was enough interest in the international game to support three English-language TV channels devoted almost exclusively to football as well as another in Spanish. American players were no longer oddities in the top European leagues, and it wasn't just goalkeepers.

But football was still trying to break out of that niche status, and it needed someone with the skill and celebrity to do it.

It needed Beckham.

His credentials as a player were unquestioned, having won multiple titles with Manchester United and Real Madrid and served as England's captain for the better part of a decade. Couple that with his ever-

changing hairstyles, Spice Girl wife and a Hollywood "Who's Who" list of friends, and he gave MLS and American football a pizzazz that was worth far more than his initial \$32.5 million paycheck.

"He certainly revved up the engine," said Sunil Gulati, president of the U.S. Soccer Federation.

"It certainly put what was a well-moving sport in the U.S. into a stronger gear, into a higher gear."

His impact was felt immediately. The Galaxy drew sold-out crowds almost everywhere they went, with fans all over the country eager to get an up-close look at Beckham. That helped lift attendance

throughout the league; the regular-season average in 2006, the last full season before Beckham joined MLS, was 15,504. Last year, it was 18,807.

Investors wanted to get involved in the action, too. When Toronto FC joined MLS shortly before Beckham's signing was an-

Beckham's L.A. Galaxy jersey became a must-have item in the wardrobes of football fans across the globe, and the team capitalized on his popularity with offseason tours to Australia, New Zealand, Indonesia and the Philippines.

"The Galaxy became a team known throughout

ers like Thierry Henry, who now plays for the New York Red Bulls after starring at Arsenal and Barcelona, and Robbie Keane, who is now with the Galaxy after more than a decade in the EPL.

Mexico captain Rafa Marquez, Henry's teammate at Barcelona, also played in MLS.

"What Beckham signaled was that MLS was going to start hiring top talent, which they'd never had," said Andrew Zimbalist, a sports economist at Smith College. "It's still not at the level of a European soccer league. Or even some of the teams in South America. ... But MLS at least turned the corner and created some momentum. And also created some excitement."

Though it took Beckham and the Galaxy a few seasons to get in sync, they eventually found their groove, winning the league title in both 2011 and 2012. Beckham even stuck around for another season after his initial contract expired in 2011, surprising many who expected him to

go back to Europe.

But Beckham has made the United States his own little project, and he's not finished yet.

"Ownership is about perception, and I think you can't have somebody that will generate more interest and eyeballs than David Beckham," Lalas said.

"But he is also smart enough to know what he doesn't know and smart enough to surround himself with good people."

"Having him as an owner can only be a positive for the individual team that he's a part of."

But also for the league in general and, ultimately, soccer."□



In this July 13, 2007, file photo, England soccer player David Beckham holds up his new jersey as he is introduced as the newest member of the Los Angeles Galaxy soccer team in Carson, Calif. The 38-year-old midfielder, who recently won a league title in a fourth country with Paris Saint-Germain, said Thursday, May 16, 2013, he will retire after the season.

Associated Press

nounced, the expansion fee was \$10 million. Five years later, the expansion fee for the Montreal Impact had risen to \$40 million, and the asking price for a second New York team is \$100 million.

His off-the-field escapades — Tom Cruise hosted his "Welcome to L.A." party — got the attention of non-football fans.

"Right from the start, there was curiosity," said Galaxy coach Bruce Arena, who coached Beckham his last four-plus seasons in Los Angeles.

"And once people saw him play, they saw there was a lot to this guy both as a player and an icon."

world," Gulati said. "It's not in the same breath as Manchester United or Real Madrid, obviously. But it's actually very well known throughout the world, and David is a big part of it."

Beckham also elevated the league's stature with international players.

Major League Soccer operates on a strict salary structure, and it was unwilling to break its bank for any player until Beckham came along.

Thanks to the "Beckham Rule," each MLS team now can have up to three "designated players" whose salaries only partially count against the salary cap. That's helped attract play-

NHL Playoffs Roundup

Blackhawks beat Red Wings 4-1 in series opener

CHICAGO (AP) — Chicago's Johnny Oduya and Marcus Kruger scored in the third period as the Blackhawks beat the Detroit Red Wings 4-1 in the opener of their NHL second-round playoff series Wednesday.

Goaltender Corey Crawford made 20 saves, Marian Hossa scored the opening goal, and Patrick Sharp had an empty-netter and two assists to give him nine points in the playoffs. Jimmy Howard finished with 38 stops in a terrific performance, but Detroit still lost to rival Chicago for the eighth straight time dating to last season. The series resumes on Saturday afternoon at the United Center.

The 75th all-time playoff game between the Black-

hawks and Red Wings was tied 1-1 after two periods, and Howard made a great stop on a breakaway by Dave Bolland 4½ minutes into the third.

Chicago kept working and went in front to stay on smart play by Oduya. He drifted in from the point and sent Sharp's pass past Howard on the glove side with 12 minutes left. Kruger then jumped on a loose puck and sent a backhand into the upper right corner to make it 3-1.

Detroit almost pulled a goal back but Damien Brunner's rebound attempt went off the crossbar and straight down before it was swept away with about three minutes left.

The game was fast and frenetic from the start. Two similar teams more than fa-

miliar with the other's style, energized by their first playoff meeting in four years.

The Blackhawks struck first, taking advantage of the first power-play opportunity of the game. With Gustav Nyquist in the box for hooking, Sharp forced a turnover along the boards and Jonathan Toews sent the puck to Hossa, who one-timed it past Howard at 9:03. Detroit needed less than two minutes to respond, tying it when Brunner poked in a rebound for his third career playoff goal.

The Blackhawks killed off two power plays created by penalties on Andrew Shaw. They killed off another one when Nick Leddy was sent off for delay of game in the second period, making them a

perfect 20 for 20 on the penalty kill in the postseason and sinking Detroit to 1 for 18 on power plays against Chicago, including the regular season. After Leddy's penalty, the Blackhawks controlled most of the action for a while. They

had a 17-5 advantage in shots in the period. They just couldn't beat Howard, who made a great glove stop on a wide-open Hossa with 6:39 remaining. Detroit also killed off two Chicago power plays to keep it tied headed to the third. □



Patrick Sharp celebrates after assisting on Johnny Oduya's goal in the third period during Game 1 of an NHL hockey playoffs Western Conference semifinal in Chicago, Wednesday, May 15, 2013. The Blackhawks won 4-1.

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3D VERSION
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FRI 6:15 | 9:15
SAT 3:20 | 6:15 | 9:15
SUN & HOL 3:20 | 6:15 | 9:15

REGULAR VERSION
MON - THURS 5:00 | 8:00
FRI 5:00 | 8:00 | 11:00
SAT 2:00 | 5:00 | 8:00 | 11:00
SUN & HOL 2:00 | 5:00 | 8:00

ON TWO SCREENS

AMANDA SEYFRIED | JASON SUDEIKIS

epic

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SAT, SUN & HOL 3:40

3D VERSION WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
MON - THURS 4:20 | 6:40 | 9:00
FRI 4:20 | 6:40 | 9:00
SAT 2:00 | 4:20 | 6:40 | 9:00
SUN & HOL 2:00 | 4:20 | 6:40 | 9:00

REGULAR VERSION WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
MON - THURS 6:00 | 8:20
FRI 6:00 | 8:20 | 10:40
SAT 6:00 | 8:20 | 10:40
SUN & HOL 6:00 | 8:20

ON TWO SCREENS

CHRIS PINE | ZACHARY QUINTO

STAR TREK INTO DARKNESS

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES **PG-13**

3D VERSION
MON - THURS 4:00 | 6:35 | 9:25
FRI 4:00 | 6:35 | 9:25
SAT 3:45 | 6:35 | 9:25
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REGULAR VERSION
MON - THURS 4:55 | 7:45
FRI 4:55 | 7:45 | 10:40
SAT 2:05 | 4:55 | 7:45 | 10:40
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ON TWO SCREENS

ALSO SHOWING!

ROBERT DOWNEY JR. | GWYNETH PALTROW

IRON MAN 3

FRI & SAT 11:20 **PG-13**

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SAT 3:40 | 6:30 | 9:20
SUN & HOL 3:40 | 6:30 | 9:20

MON - THURS 4:50 | 7:40
FRI 4:50 | 7:40 | 10:30
SAT 2:00 | 4:50 | 7:40 | 10:30
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What's normal? US debates latest psychiatric guide

LINDSEY TANNER
AP Medical Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — The new version of the world's most widely used psychiatric guide to mental disorders says grief soon after a loved one's death now can be considered major depression. Extreme childhood temper tantrums get a fancy name. And certain forgetful moments for the aging are called "mild neurocognitive disorder." Those changes are just some of the reasons prominent critics say the American Psychiatric Association is out of control, turning common problems into mental illnesses in a trend they say will just make the "pop-a-pill" culture worse. Says a former leader of the group: "Normal needs to be saved from powerful forces trying to convince us that we are all sick." At issue is the fifth edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, widely known as the DSM-5. The DSM has long been considered the authoritative source for diagnosing mental problems. The psychiatric associa-

tion formally introduces the nearly 1,000-page revised version this weekend in San Francisco. It's the manual's first major update in nearly 20 years, and a backlash has taken shape in recent weeks:

— Two new books by mental health experts, "Saving Normal" and "The Book of Woe," say the manual has lost credibility.

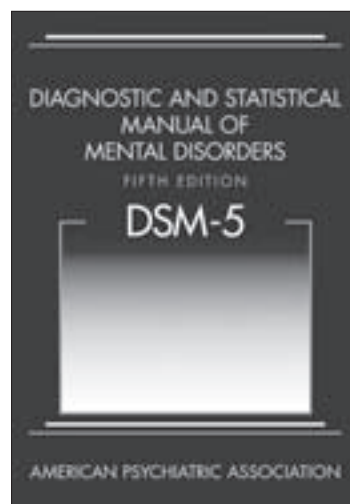
— A British psychologists' group is criticizing the DSM-5, calling for a "paradigm shift" away from viewing mental problems as a disease. An organization of German therapists also attacked the new guide.

— The head of the U.S. National Institute of Mental Health, Dr. Thomas Insel, said the book lacks scientific validity.

The manual's release comes at a time of increased scrutiny of health care costs and concern about drug companies' influence over doctors. Critics point to a landscape in which TV ads describe symptoms for mental disorders and promote certain drugs to treat them.

Many of the 31 task force members involved in de-

veloping the revised guidebook have had financial ties to makers of psychiatric drugs, including consulting fees, research grants or stock. Group leaders dismiss that criticism and emphasize they agreed not to



The revised American Psychiatric Association's guidebook of mental disorders is being released in May 2013.

(AP Photo/APA)

collect more than \$10,000 in industry money in the calendar year preceding publication of the manual. "Way too much treatment is given to the normal 'worried well' who are harmed by it; far too little help is available for those who are really ill and desperately

need it," Dr. Allen Frances writes in "Saving Normal." He is a retired Duke University professor who led the psychiatric group's task force that worked on the previous guide.

He says the new version adds new diagnoses "that would turn everyday anxiety, eccentricity, forgetting and bad eating habits into mental disorders."

Previous revisions were also loudly criticized, but the latest one comes at a time of soaring diagnoses of illnesses listed in the manual — including autism, attention deficit disorder and bipolar disorder — and billions of dollars spent each year on psychiatric drugs. The group's 34,000 members are psychiatrists — medical doctors who specialize in treating mental illness. Unlike psychologists and other therapists without medical degrees, they can prescribe medication. While there has long been rivalry between the two groups, the DSM-5 revisions have stoked the tensions. The most contentious changes include these:

— Diagnosing as major depression the extreme sad-

ness, weight loss, fatigue and trouble sleeping some people experience after a loved one's death. Major depression is typically treated with antidepressants.

— Calling frequent, extreme temper tantrums "disruptive mood dysregulation disorder," a new diagnosis. The psychiatric association says the label is meant to apply to youth who in the past might have been misdiagnosed as having bipolar disorder. Critics say it turns normal tantrums into mental illness.

— Diagnosing mental decline that goes a bit beyond normal aging as "mild neurocognitive disorder." Affected people may find it takes more effort to pay bills or manage their medications. Critics of the term say it will stigmatize so-called "senior moments."

— Calling excessive thoughts or feelings about pain or other discomfort "somatic symptom disorder," something that could affect the healthy as well as cancer patients. Critics say the term turns normal reactions to a disease into mental illness.

— Adding binge eating as a new category for over-eating that occurs at least once a week for at least three months. It could apply to people who sometimes gulp down a pint of ice cream when they're alone and then feel guilty about it.

— Removing Asperger's syndrome as a separate diagnosis and putting it under the umbrella term "autism spectrum disorder."

Dr. David Kupfer, chairman of the task force that oversaw the DSM-5, said the changes are based on solid research and will help make sure people get accurate diagnoses and treatment.

Dr. Jeffrey Lieberman, the association's incoming president, said challenging the handbook's credibility "is completely unwarranted." He said the book takes into account the most up-to-date scientific knowledge. □

Tiny preemies get a boost from live music therapy

LINDSEY TANNER
AP Medical Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — As the guitarist strums and softly sings a lullaby in Spanish, tiny Augustin Morales stops squirming in his hospital crib and closes his eyes.

This is therapy in a newborn intensive care unit, and research suggests that music may help those born way too soon adapt to life outside the womb.

Some tiny preemies are too small and fragile to be held and comforted by human touch, and many are often fussy and show other signs of stress. Other common complications include immature lungs, eye disease, problems with sucking, and sleeping and alertness difficulties.

Recent studies and anecdotal reports suggest the vibrations and soothing rhythms of music, especially performed live in the hos-

pital, might benefit preemies and other sick babies. Many insurers won't pay for music therapy because of doubts that it results in any lasting medical improvement. Some doctors say the music works best at relieving babies' stress and helping parents bond with infants too sick to go home.

But amid beeping monitors, IV poles and plastic breathing tubes in infants' rooms at Chicago's Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital, music therapist Elizabeth Klinger provides a soothing contrast that even the tiniest babies seem to notice.

"What music therapy can uniquely provide is that passive listening experience that just encourages relaxation for the patient, encourages participation by the family," Klinger said after a recent session in

Augustin's hospital room. Dr. Natalia Henner, a newborn specialist at Lurie hospital, said studies in nursing journals show music therapy for preemies "does help with promoting growth. And there's some good literature ... saying that the time to discharge is a little bit shorter in babies who've been exposed to more music therapy."

She said it "definitely facilitates bonding" between parents of preemies and other babies too sick to go home.

Loewy led a study published last month in the journal Pediatrics, involving 11 U.S. hospitals. Therapists in the study played special small drums to mimic womb sounds and timed the rhythm to match the infants' heartbeats. The music appeared to slow the infants' heartbeats, calm their breathing, and im-

prove sucking and sleeping, Loewy said.

Soozie Cotter-Schaufele, a music therapist at Advocate Children's Hospital-Park Ridge near Chicago, says soothing rhythmic sounds of music can mimic womb sounds and provide a comforting environment for preemies. She sings and plays a small harp or guitar, and says the sounds help calm tiny babies while they're undergoing painful medical procedures.

Cotter-Schaufele said she recently heard from a woman whose daughter was born prematurely at her hospital six years ago. She had played the 1960s folk song "Today" for the infant.

The mother reported her daughter "'still loves that song.'" She said "She didn't learn that song from me, she learned it from you," Cotter-Schaufele said. □

Google's products dig deeper into people's lives

MICHAEL LIEDTKE
AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — For Google CEO Larry Page, happiness is a warm computer.

"Technology should do the hard work so people can get on doing the things that make them happiest in life," Page told a crowd of 6,000 software developers and entrepreneurs who flocked to San Francisco Wednesday for the opening day of Google's annual showcase for its latest breakthroughs.

In the latest display of its technological prowess and sweeping ambition, Google is rolling out another wave of products and services that will test how much more people want computers to control their lives and enhance their perceptions of reality.

This year's event mostly consisted of upgrades to existing Google services that have already become daily habits for millions of people — one of Page's main goals. The new features assume most people want to more help managing their lives from Google's brainy engineers and the sprawling data centers that house its millions of computers around the world. Investors are increasingly becoming convinced that Google's tentacles are going to grasp more money-making opportunities as its dominant search engine and ancillary services become more pervasive on the mobile devices.

Google already has an enviable perch on the smartphones and tablets that have become people's constant companions. Its Android software has been activated on 900 million devices worldwide. In the first quarter of this year, Android devices held a 74 percent share of the global smartphone market followed by the Apple's iPhone at 18 percent, according to the research firm IDC. Android also led the tablet market with a 56.5 percent share versus 40 percent for Apple's iPad during the first quarter,

according to another research firm, Gartner Inc.

Google's products and services have also made major inroads among users of the iPhone and iPad, despite Apple's recent efforts to cast aside some of Google's products.

In a show of Wall Street's faith, Google's stock surged past \$900 for the first time Wednesday to propel the company's market value beyond \$300 billion for the first time. Google shares gained \$28.79, or more than 3 percent, to close at \$915.89. The latest milestone came less than three months after Google shares surpassed \$800 for the first time. The stock has increased 55 percent since Page, Google's co-founder, succeeded his mentor, Eric Schmidt, as CEO two years ago.

In contrast, investors have become exasperated with rival Apple's lack of breakthrough products since its visionary CEO Steve Jobs died in October 2011. Apple's stock has plunged by nearly 40 percent since last September, leaving the shares at \$428.85. Still, Apple's market value remains nearly \$100 billion higher than Google's.

Page, 40, seemed to share some of that frustration Wednesday in a rare 45-minute appearance that capped a three-and-half hour presentation of Google's latest products. His appearance came the day after he disclosed that both his vocal cords have been hobbled to the point that it makes it difficult to speak for extended periods — and sometimes breathe when exercising.

Without mentioning Apple by name, Page said more companies need to develop products "outside their comfort zone." It's something that Page says he has also insisted on Google doing since he started the company with Sergey Brin in 1998. Some of the gambles, like expansions into digital mapping and email, have paid off. Others, such as creating an alternative to Wikipedia and a social



Vic Gundotra, senior vice president, engineering for Google, speaks about Google+ photo at Google I/O 2013 in San Francisco, Wednesday, May 15, 2013.

Associated Press

networking service called Buzz, have been flops.

"Every time we have tried to something crazy, we have usually made progress," Page said. "So we have been emboldened." The latest examples of audacious Google experiments that appear likely to become viable products

include autonomously driven cars and Google Glass, an Internet-connected device with a built-in camera and small display screen that can be worn around a person's face like a pair of spectacles. Several Google employees and developers who bought a test version of Google Glass were

wearing the device as they walked around the conference Wednesday.

Google Glass stole last year's conference when a group of skydivers wearing the device were shown jumping from dirigible above the building where the meeting was being held. □

Sector Snap: Makers of computer networking gear

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Investors snapped up the stocks of companies that make computer networking gear Thursday after industry leader Cisco Systems Inc.'s latest quarterly earnings raised hope that business is picking up after a long stretch of lackluster demand.

Cisco led the rally as its shares surged to their biggest one-day gain in 21 months. The stock had gained \$2.59, or more than 12 percent, to \$23.80 in afternoon trading.

Other computer networking specialists such as F5 Networks Inc. and Juniper Networks Inc. gained in a reaction to Cisco's solid performance during its fiscal third quarter and the upbeat commentary of Cisco CEO John Chambers as he discussed the results in a conference call held late Wednesday.

Chambers said the business climate in U.S. looks good while prospects in other parts of the world seem brighter too. Although he isn't an economist, Chambers has built a reputation on Wall Street for having a good handle on the ebb and flow of business cycles during his 18 years as Cisco's CEO. He is also in a good position to see the big picture because Cisco sell its routers, switches, software and services to corporate customers and government agencies around the world.

Chambers' remarks were "surprisingly bullish," said Sterne Agee analyst Alex Kurtz in a Thursday note to investors.

That's good news after letdowns that have alienated investors in the sector lately. The most recent disappointments included discouraging financial reports

last month from F5 Networks Inc. and Radware Ltd.

But Wedbush Securities Rohit Chopra believes Cisco's performance and reassuring outlook signals that demand is not getting worse for the computer networking equipment market.

Other companies in the sector rallied. F5 Networks' stock gained \$4.15, or 5.2 percent, to \$84.05 while Radware shares added 58 cents, or 3.8 percent, to \$15.88 in afternoon trading. Other rival companies benefiting from the renewed optimism included: Juniper Networks Inc., up 78 cents, or 4.6 percent, to \$17.85; Riverbed Technology Inc., up 72 cents, or 4.6 percent, to \$16.35; and Infoblox Inc., up 57 cents, or 2.7 percent, to \$21.89.

Infoblox is scheduled to report its fiscal third-third quarter earnings on May 23. □

A late fade on Wall Street; Wal-Mart, Disney slump

MATTHEW CRAFT
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Signs of a slowing economy combined with comments from a Federal Reserve official helped pull the stock market down Thursday. The news on the U.S. economy gave investors little to get excited about. Applications for unemployment benefits rose last week and manufacturing slowed in the mid-Atlantic region. Wal-Mart Stores sank after warning of weaker earnings ahead.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 42.47 points to 15,233.22, a loss of 0.3 percent. The Standard & Poor's 500 index dropped 8.31 points to 1,650.47, or 0.5 percent. Both indexes closed at record highs the day before. It was only the third drop for the S&P this month.

"We've had such a tremendous run," said J. J. Kinahan, chief strategist at TD Ameritrade. "On a day with a bunch of disappointing data, you're looking for some good news to

hold on to."

The manufacturing report from the Philadelphia branch of the Federal Reserve sent bond prices up

until shortly after 3 p.m.

That's when news crossed that John Williams, head of the Federal Reserve's San Francisco branch, told

only curtail its stimulus effort when the economy looked strong enough.

Cisco jumped 13 percent, or \$2.68, to \$23.89. The

ter revenue from the U.S. and emerging markets. Cisco's performance is often considered a gauge of the technology industry's strength, and tech stocks fared better than the rest of the market Thursday. Technology was the only one of the 10 industry groups in the S&P 500 index to close higher.

The Nasdaq composite index lost 6.37 points to 3,465.24, a drop of 0.2 percent.

Wal-Mart fell 2 percent. The world's largest retailer turned in weaker sales and a dim forecast for profits. The company blamed bad weather and delayed tax refunds for earnings and sales that fell short of what analysts had expected. Wal-Mart's stock lost \$1.36 to \$78.50.

Companies have reported record quarterly profits this earnings season. Seven of every 10 in the S&P 500 have trumped analysts' earnings estimates, according to S&P Capital IQ. Earnings have climbed 5 percent over the year before.

But revenue has looked weak: six out of every 10 companies in the S&P 500 have missed forecasts, and revenue has edged up just 1 percent. Without higher sales, companies are getting more of their profits from laying off staff and other cost-cutting moves. Scott King, an investment adviser at Unified Trust Co. in Lexington, Kentucky, said that if the market is going to keep climbing this year, sales will have to start rising. Analysts are looking for that to happen as economic growth gains strength later this year.

"It's hard to see how companies can squeeze more earnings growth out of cost savings," King said. "At some point, the economic numbers and revenue have to pick up."

The Philadelphia branch of the Federal Reserve reported that manufacturers in the region said business conditions slumped this month.

Orders for manufactured goods and shipments have been weak. □



A worker pushes shopping carts in front of a Walmart store in La Habra, Calif. Wal-Mart Stores Inc., the world's largest retailer turned in weaker sales and a dim forecast for profits on Thursday, May 16, 2013.
(AP Photo/Jae C. Hong)

and turned stocks lower in morning trading. The stock market recovered before noon, then spent most of the day with slight gains

an audience that the Fed could end its bond-buying program this year. But Williams' comments made clear that the Fed would

network-equipment maker turned in quarterly results late Wednesday that beat analysts' expectations, with the help of bet-

Airlines losses narrowed in 1Q to \$552 million

SCOTT MAYEROWITZ
AP Airlines Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. airlines charged more in fares and fees and reduced debt as they improved their financial performance in the first quarter. They still lost money, which is typical for the year's first three months travel slows after the holidays and delays rack up from snow storms. But the deficit was \$552 million — or \$3.30 per passenger — compared with \$1.7 billion in same period in 2012.

The industry's second-quarter results could show a hit tied to federal budget cuts. Looking further out, summer travel should pick up over last year but still trail its pre-recession peak, according to Airlines for America, the industry's lobbying group.

Airlines have been making a concerted effort to get their costs under control, said John Heimlich, chief economist for the lobby-

ing group, during a media presentation Thursday.

That's a big challenge. Fuel accounts for more than a third of the airlines' costs and is largely out of their control. Airlines were able to lower debt and interest payments, Heimlich said, but the biggest gains came from increasing airfares and charging more in fees. Total operating revenue rose 2.5 percent year over year, Heimlich said.

As airlines take in more cash — and remain profitable in other quarters — they are investing in new planes, better first class seats, improvements to airport terminals, increased in-flight entertainment and better technology for tracking luggage.

Airlines are likely to take a financial hit to their second-quarter results due to lengthy delays in April caused by furloughs to air traffic controllers.

The Federal Aviation

Administration had furloughed controllers for one week as part of a long-standing budget fight between Congress and the White House. About 7,200 flights were estimated to be delayed because of the controller shortage. Airlines for America estimates that 600,000 passengers were delayed, costing the airlines \$50 million.

Looking ahead to summer, the lobbying group expects 208.7 million people to fly in June, July and August, up from 206.6 million last year but still down from the 2007 peak of 217.6 million. Planes will again be packed, the group predicts, with 86 to 87 percent of seats filled with paying passengers, about the same as the last four summers.

International travel — with its more expensive tickets — will continue to aid the U.S. airline industry: 27.4 million of this summer's

travelers will be coming from outside the country, a record.

The lobbying group used Thursday's media briefing to reiterate its criticism of the Department of Homeland Security for a decision to open a customs and immigration pre-clearance facility in Abu Dhabi, the capital of the United Arab Emirates.

The only airline to fly directly from there to the United States is Abu Dhabi-based Etihad Airways, a rapidly-growing carrier seen as a threat to many Western airlines on their lucrative international routes.

Heimlich said the U.S. government should be focused instead on dealing with the much larger amount of passengers coming from London, Toronto, Tokyo, Frankfurt and Paris and reducing their wait times.

"This is wrong," he said. "We need to fix the situation here." □

Dell's 1Q earnings fall 79 pct as PC sales sag

ROUND ROCK, Texas (AP) — Dell's earnings plunged 79 percent in the latest quarter as the shift to smartphones and tablets reduced demand for the company's personal computers. The dismal performance announced Thursday actually might work to the advantage of Dell Inc.'s board. That's because Dell's directors are trying to persuade shareholders to accept a \$24.4 billion buyout offer from CEO Michael Dell and other investors. Some shareholders say the sales price of \$13.65 per share is too

low, but Dell's board contends it's a good deal in light of challenges facing the company. The results for the fiscal first quarter, which ended May 3, should reinforce the board's point. At the same time, opponents of that proposal may question whether the company is deliberately finding ways to make the results look as bleak as possible in an effort to get the deal done. A shareholder vote is supposed to be held by Aug. 2. Two of Dell's largest shareholders, billionaire Carl Icahn and Southeastern

Asset Management, are trying to block the sale to Michael Dell with an alternative proposal that would keep the company public traded. If Michael Dell's offer is accepted, it would end Dell's 25-year history as a publicly traded company. Dell earned \$130 million, or 7 cents per share, in the latest quarter, compared with \$635 million, or 36 cents per share, a year earlier. If not for certain items unrelated to its ongoing business, Dell said it would have earned 21 cents per share. That figure was below the aver-

age estimate of 35 cents per share among analysts polled by FactSet. The shortfall doesn't come as a shock. Speculation that Dell missed analysts' earnings target mounted earlier this week after the Round Rock, Texas, company disclosed that it would release its results ahead of schedule. The report originally was supposed to be released next Tuesday. Dell's revenue for the period dipped 2 percent to \$14.1 billion, about \$600 million above analyst predictions. The company benefited

from an improvement in business software and other technology services, an area that Michael Dell wants to expand. Revenue in that business rose 12 percent from last year. But as the world's largest seller of PCs, Dell's business still revolves around laptop and desktop machines, which are going out of style as more people embrace smartphones and tablets. Dell's revenue in its PC division dropped 9 percent in the latest quarter. Dell's stock shed 6 cents in extended trading to \$13.37. □

Nordstrom 1Q net income slips on demand

SEATTLE (AP) — Nordstrom Inc. said Thursday its first-quarter net income fell 3 percent, hurt by weak demand for spring merchandise and softer performance. The results were below Wall Street estimates, a rare miss for the luxury retailer given that higher-end spenders have generally kept shopping in the lackluster economy. The company's stock fell more than 3 percent in aftermarket trading. Nordstrom said it had lower sales trends in seasonal products, as well as in the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic and the Midwest states during the first two months of the year. Results improved in April. Lower-than-planned sales were offset by tightened control over inventory and expenses. The Seattle-based retail-

er said net income fell to \$145 million, or 73 cents per share. That compares with net income of \$149 million, or 70 cents per share a year ago. Analysts expected net income of 76 cents per share. Revenue rose 5 percent to \$2.75 billion. Analysts expected \$2.81 billion. Revenue in stores open at least one year rose 2.7 percent. The measure is a key gauge of a retailer's financial health because it excludes stores that have opened or closed during the year. Top performing categories included makeup, women's clothing and purses. The company now expects full-year sales to rise 4 to 6 percent from a prior range of 4.5 to 6.5 percent. That implies revenue of \$12.63 billion to \$12.89 billion. Analysts expect \$12.85 billion.



This photo shows a Nordstrom sign at a shopping mall in Brea, Calif. Nordstrom is expected to report quarterly results on Thursday, May 16, 2013. (AP Photo/Jae C. Hong)

It reiterated full-year net-income guidance of \$3.65 to \$3.80 per share, however. Analysts expect \$3.80 per share. The company issued

its results after the close of trading on Wall Street and its stock fell \$1.98 to \$59.15 in aftermarket dealings. It had ended the regular

trading session day down 31 cents at \$61.13. That's still near the high end of the stock's 52-week range of \$46.27 to \$61.81. □

Alcoa cuts 500 jobs, 2 production lines in Canada

NEW YORK (AP) — Aluminum smelter and parts-maker Alcoa said on Thursday that it will close down two production lines at a plant in Canada and cut about 500 jobs there because of lower aluminum prices. A major portion of a planned upgrade for the facility in Quebec is being pushed back by three years, to 2019, the company said. Alcoa has seen strong de-

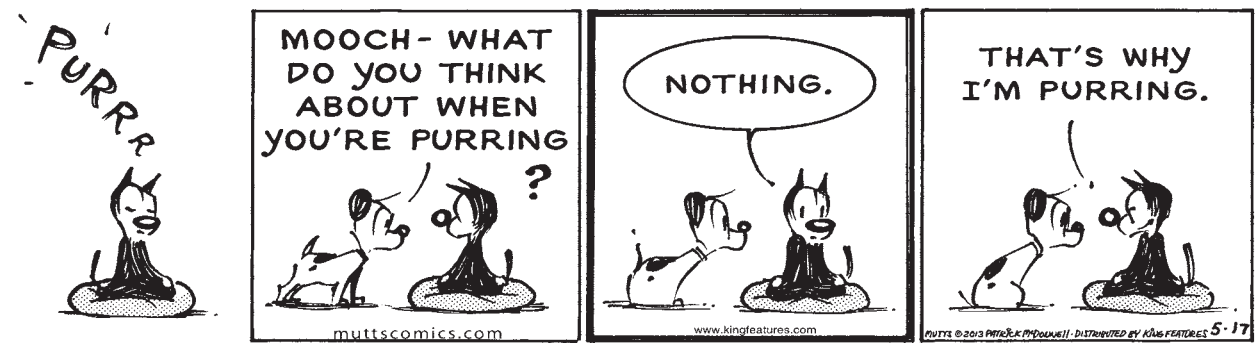
mand for aluminum, but prices have fallen. Those lower prices were a factor when Alcoa reported lower-than-expected first-quarter revenue last month. On May 1 it said it might cut capacity by 11 percent, or 460,000 tons, in addition to the 13 percent of its capacity it had already idled. The Soderberg production lines Alcoa is shutting down account for 105,000 tons of capacity. The so-called

potlines are where electrical current is applied to alumina to make aluminum. The Baie-Comeau plant was built in 1957 and acquired by Alcoa in 2000. Of the two Soderberg lines, Alcoa had planned to shut one down by the end of this year and the other in 2015. Now they'll both be shut down by August. Alcoa said the lines are among its most expensive production lines to run. It

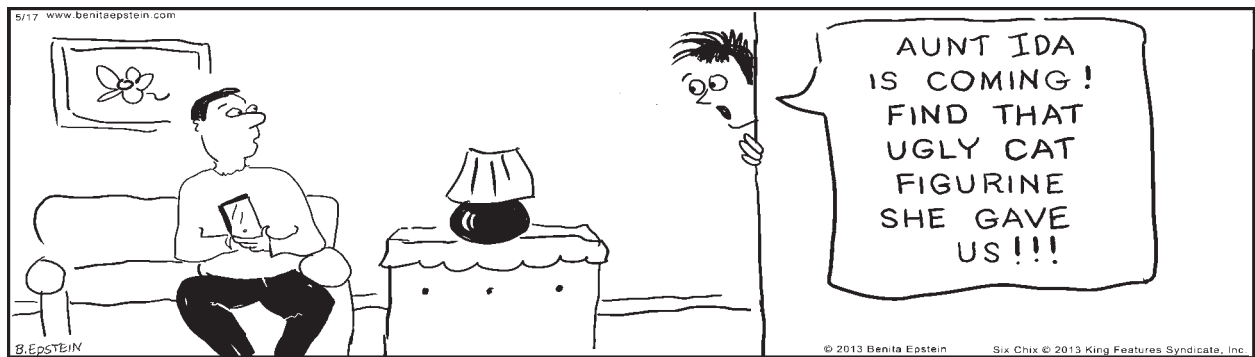
said the job reductions will come through retirements and attrition. The plant employs about 1,400 people now. Alcoa has been planning to build a new line at the facility by 2016, but that has been pushed back to 2019. It still plans to spend about \$100 million on the plant over the next three years to begin preparation for the upgrade, including \$30 million for its casting facility because of strong de-

mand for auto parts. Alcoa has been shifting away from its old focus on aluminum mining and smelting and towards making aluminum parts itself, because those carry a higher profit margin and prices are less volatile. Other parts of the upgrade are moving forward, including improvements to the port near the plant. Alcoa Inc. shares rose 2 cents to \$8.52 in afternoon trading. □

Mutts



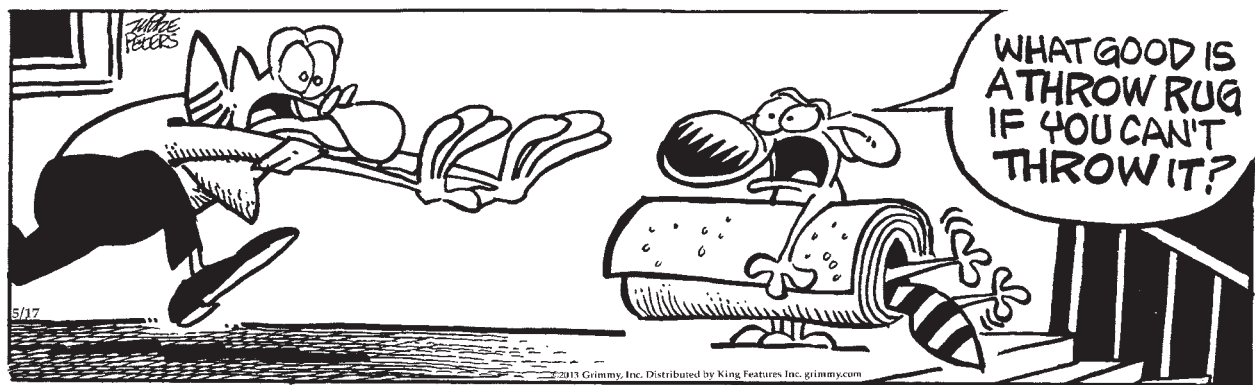
6 Chix



Blondie



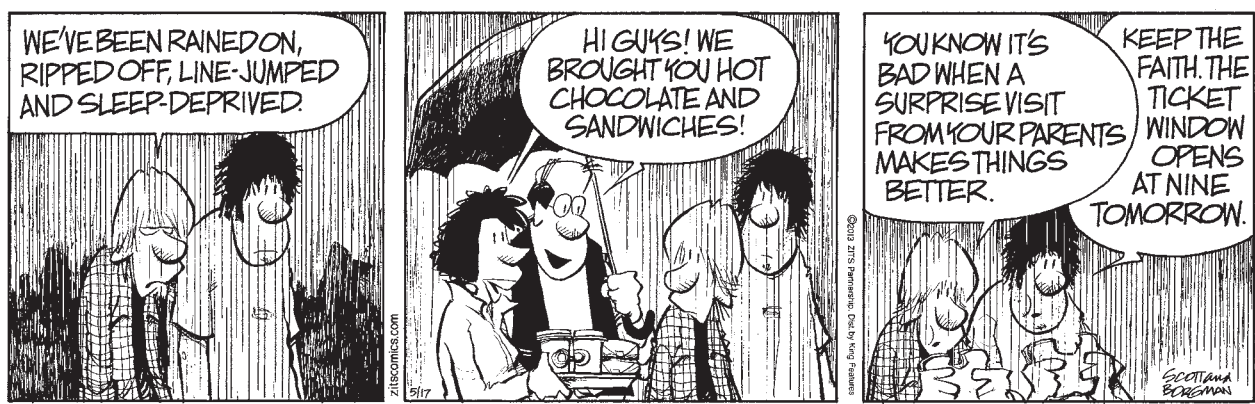
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

		7	5	3				
						5		
	6		9	8				3
						2		8
5		6		1		3		7
1		8						
6				9	1		2	
		3						
				2	6	9		

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 5/17

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

6	7	1	2	4	3	9	8	5
3	5	2	1	8	9	6	7	4
4	8	9	5	7	6	1	3	2
8	9	4	3	5	1	2	6	7
1	6	7	9	2	4	8	5	3
2	3	5	7	6	8	4	9	1
9	4	3	6	1	7	5	2	8
5	1	6	8	3	2	7	4	9
7	2	8	4	9	5	3	1	6

- ACROSS
- 1 Opponent
 - 6 Sleeping
 - 10 Certain
 - 14 Still breathing
 - 15 Hearty
 - 16 ___-friendly; easy to learn
 - 17 Coil of yarn
 - 18 ___ Moran of "Happy Days"
 - 19 Actress Perlman
 - 20 Oahu resident
 - 22 Fictional books
 - 24 Take care of
 - 25 Various; assorted
 - 26 Rise
 - 29 Baseball's ___ Stengel
 - 30 Zodiac sign
 - 31 Close-fitting
 - 33 Wall recesses
 - 37 Date tree
 - 39 Went public with
 - 41 Roller ___; skater's place
 - 42 Take illegally
 - 44 Staircase part
 - 46 Flowery ring
 - 47 Saw & hammer
 - 49 Diminish
 - 51 Lends a hand
 - 54 Knighted woman
 - 55 Small piano
 - 56 Japanese farewell
 - 60 Not kooky
 - 61 Filled with wonder
 - 63 Energy
 - 64 On ___; uptight
 - 65 Breeze
 - 66 Vote into office
 - 67 Pegs for Nicklaus
 - 68 Griffith or Warhol
 - 69 Classroom furniture

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15				16			
17					18				19			
20					21			22	23			
24							25					
26	27	28				29						
30				31	32				33	34	35	36
37			38		39			40		41		
42				43	44				45	46		
47					48			49	50			
51	52	53					54					
55						56				57	58	59
60					61	62			63			
64					65				66			
67					68				69			

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews 5/17/13

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

RARE	COACH	LUGE
OPEN	ANDRE	ANEW
LEAD	MEDAL	NINE
EXPOSES	FLATTER	
	RHO	STONE
AMUSE	MAY	GRABS
VINE	MAV	VENIAL
END	CADAVER	DRY
REUBEN	GET	HEEL
TREED	REX	BUDDY
	SAFES	CAD
SATIRES	MEDDLED	
AVID	RIDER	LONE
GORE	ADULT	EGGS
AWES	LEEDS	DELI

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- 40 Put off for now
- 43 Misplace
- 45 Took away
- 48 Canada's capital
- 50 In one's dotage
- 51 Valuable possession
- 52 Black card
- 53 Burn the edges of
- 54 Papa
- 56 ___ for; order by mail
- 57 Eras
- 58 Boulder
- 59 ___ and crafts
- 62 Be victorious

Amtrak is introducing Acela-like Wi-Fi

RON NIXON

© 2013 New York Times

WASHINGTON – After years of criticism of the wireless service on its trains, Amtrak announced Thursday that it had upgraded its cellular-based Wi-Fi offering using broadband technologies that will improve the speed and reliability of

ence at home.

The railroad said the broadband upgrade was complete on the high-speed Acela trains that travel the more than 400 miles between Washington and Boston. Several state-supported routes in California, including the Capitol Corridor, Pacific Surfliner and

gers had already noticed an improvement in the Wi-Fi service aboard the trains and had been commenting through social media. Not all the social media chatter has been positive, however.

Shelton Mercer, chief executive of TwitChange, an Atlanta-based website



Steve Jackson of Collegeville, Pa., uses the Wi-Fi aboard an Amtrak train en route to Boston from Baltimore, Md. The railroad announced Thursday May 16, 2013, that it has upgraded its cellular-based Wi-Fi offering using broadband technologies that will improve speed and reliability.

(Luke Sharrett/The New York Times)

the Internet in its passenger cars.

Amtrak's Wi-Fi has been the target of technology jokes since the railroad introduced the service, with some passengers comparing it to dial-up services like America Online or Prodigy. Others have praised the service, however, saying it allowed them to be productive while traveling between cities, unlike airline travel. Because of the technical difficulties of maintaining a strong Internet connection on a moving train, the increase in speed would still be less than most people experi-

San Joaquin routes, have also been upgraded.

Amtrak said it would roll out the upgrades to all remaining Amtrak trains equipped with Wi-Fi, including the Northeast Regional, by late summer.

"We continue to place a strong focus on improving customer satisfaction, and this upgrade is delivering the improved speeds and connectivity required to maintain a competitive edge," Deborah Stone-Wulf, Amtrak's chief of sales distribution and customer service, said in a statement.

Amtrak said Acela passen-

that brings celebrities and fans together for good causes, wrote on Twitter last month, "(HASHTAG) Amtrak 'Wi-fi' should be renamed 'Why-Try.'"

Amtrak responded to some negative Twitter posts, saying the upgrades would strengthen its Wi-Fi network and increase the amount of bandwidth available for tech-savvy passengers who have become accustomed to being connected while traveling.

Sara Wachter-Boettcher, an author and Web consultant in Lancaster, Pa., called the service an infuriating luxury. □

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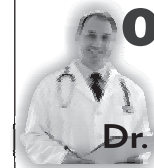
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Swine flu found in elephant seals off California

DAVIS, California (AP) — Researchers have detected swine flu in elephant seals off the Central California coast, saying it was the first time a human pandemic strain has been found in marine mammals. However, none of the animals showed clinical signs of the illness.

A University of California, Davis study found the seals contracted the H1N1 virus in 2010, as the pandemic caused by the virus was winding down in humans, the Contra Costa Times reported Wednesday.

The influenza virus commonly crosses species barriers, and it wasn't the first time a marine mammal has been found to carry a human strain, UC Davis professor Tracey Goldstein told the newspaper. However, until now researchers had never found a human pandemic strain in marine mammals, Goldstein said.



This Sept. 2001 file photo shows Elephant seals cavorting on a beach along California's central coast in San Simeon Calif. Associated Press

Researchers still aren't sure exactly how the seals contracted the virus but said it's unlikely it came from direct contact with people. The researchers raised

the possibility that seabirds may have passed on the virus.

"The data suggest the animals were exposed when they were at sea, or com-

ing into the nearshore environment," Goldstein said. UC Davis wildlife biologists swabbed the noses of 72 elephant seals over the course of two years at Ano

Nuevo State Reserve in San Mateo County and Piedras Blancas in San Simeon. The animals were sampled before and after their annual spring foraging trip to Alaskan waters.

The animals tested clean before departure, but two came back bearing the virus in 2010, the newspaper said. A year later, 16 elephant seal pups had blood tests showing they had been exposed to the virus.

Goldstein said the presence of H1N1 in seals is not a cause for alarm.

"It's just a general reminder to people who work with animals to make sure that they protect themselves," she said.

The study was published Wednesday in the online journal PLOS ONE.

The 2009 H1N1 outbreak started a global pandemic that killed as many as half a million people. □

NASA: New pump resolves big space station leak

MARCIA DUNN
AP Aerospace Writer

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (AP) — An impromptu spacewalk over the weekend seems to have fixed a big ammonia leak at the International Space Station, NASA said Thursday. The "gusher" erupted a week ago, prompting the hastiest repair job ever by residents of the orbiting lab. Spacewalking astronauts replaced a suspect ammonia pump on Saturday, just two days after the trouble arose.

NASA is now calling the old, removed pump "Mr. Leaky," said flight controller Anthony Vareha. "Right now, we're feeling pretty good. We definitely got the big leak," Vareha said in a NASA broadcast

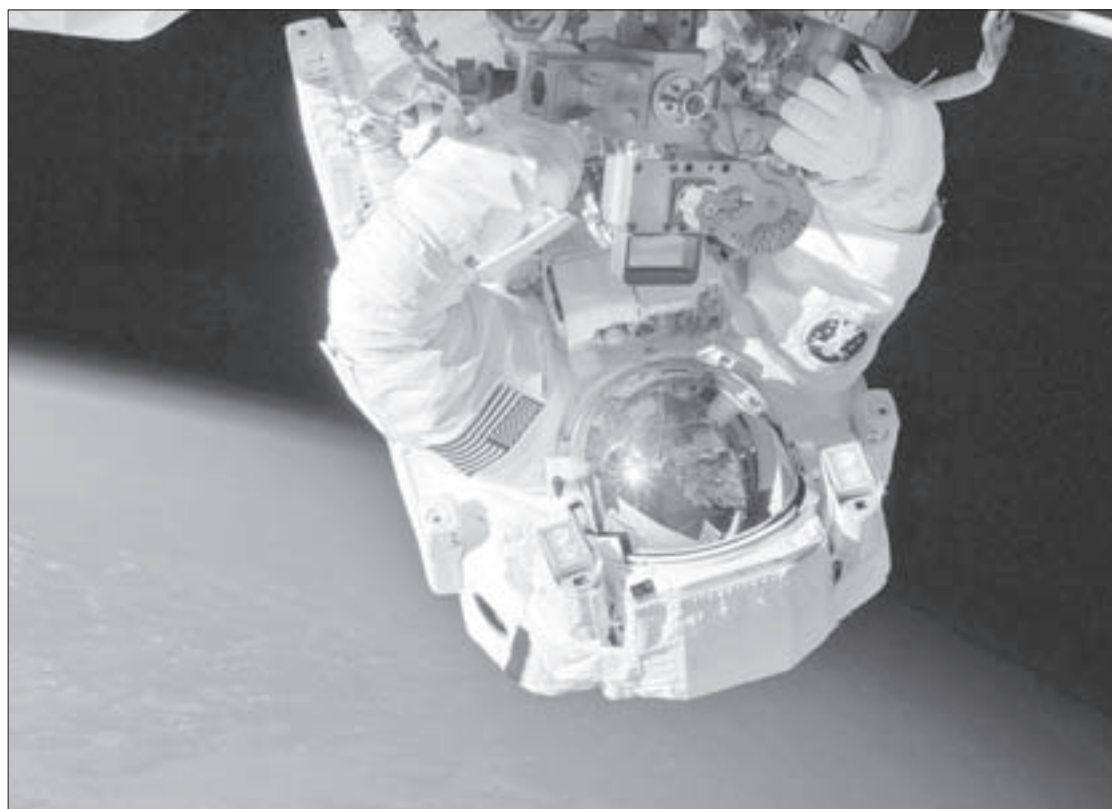
from Mission Control in Houston.

Vareha said engineers don't know whether the pump replacement also took care of a smaller leak that has plagued the system for years. It will take at least a couple months of monitoring to know the full status.

Ammonia is used as a coolant in the space station's radiator system.

The leak forced one of the station's seven power channels to go offline. NASA hopes to resume normal operations early next week, following computer software updates.

One of the spacewalkers, NASA astronaut Thomas Marshburn, is now back on Earth. He returned this week aboard a Russian



In this Saturday, May 11, 2013 photo made available by NASA, astronaut Chris Cassidy and Tom Marshburn, not pictured, perform a space walk to inspect and replace a pump controller box on the International Space Station after an ammonia coolant leak was discovered.

Associated Press

Soyuz capsule, ending a five-month mission.

The other spacewalker, Christopher Cassidy, a recent arrival, spent Thursday chatting with three of the actors and a writer-producer of the newest Star Trek movie, "Star Trek

into Darkness." The film was beamed up to the space station a few days before its U.S. opening in theaters Thursday.

Cassidy watched the first half-hour of the movie while he was exercising Thursday morning and of-

fered a stellar review.

"I was riveted as you're racing through the woods and jumping off cliffs," he told the actors.

"I won't spoil the rest of the movie for anybody who hasn't seen it. But pretty cool scenes." □

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'Vampire Diaries' star understands fans passion

ALICIA RANCILIO
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — "The Vampire Diaries" is known for its twists and turns, and one of its stars, Ian Somerhalder, says Thursday night's season finale won't be any different. "Elena's gonna make a big decision," teased the 34-year-old actor at CW's presentation of its programming for next season. He couldn't elaborate on what decision or decisions would be made. The series is set in a fictional Virginia town where

vampires, werewolves and witches live among humans (though not exactly peacefully). At the heart of the series is a love triangle among vampire brothers Damon (Somerhalder) and Stefan (Paul Wesley), who both love Elena (Nina Dobrev). The show, which has been on the air since 2009, has a passionate fan following, and Somerhalder said Thursday that he feels that investment almost everywhere he goes. "I was in Toronto yesterday and people were coming



Ian Somerhalder, from "The Vampire Diaries," attends the CW Upfront on Thursday, May 16, 2013 in New York.

Associated Press

CW to air iHeartRadio Music Festival next season

NEW YORK (AP) — The CW network is bringing a popular radio music series to television and is going heavy on escapist fare in its new programming for next season. As part of a three-year deal, the iHeartRadio Music Festival will air exclusively on the network and stream on CWTV.com following the broadcasts, the CW said Thursday. Other

iHeartRadio events, including a Jingle Ball holiday concert, are coming to the CW as part of the agreement with Clear Channel Media and Entertainment. The music festival will be held in September in Las Vegas by Clear Channel. CW's young-skewing audience will also find a mix of fantasy and fashion on the 2014-15 schedule. □

up to me, men, women, children, literally some of them in tears, bludgeoning me with what's gonna happen (on the show). ... People are very, very affected. I'm very curious to see what the reaction is (to the season finale)." Somerhalder's character struck a particular chord with viewers. Introduced as

an antagonistic vampire, he's softened some over the years, largely due to his love for Elena. Initially, he wasn't sure about Damon losing some of his edge. "Damon has to care about something sometimes, and I always wanted to stay the bad guy, and (series co-creator) Kevin Williamson

had to pound it into my head that we didn't want Damon to be a one-trick pony. I disagreed, but over time I realized (the writers) were right and you need a layered, dynamic character," Somerhalder said. "The Vampire Diaries" has a spinoff series, "The Originals," that will air on Tuesdays beginning this fall. □

J Lo named chief creative officer of NUVOfv

FRAZIER MOORE
AP Television Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Jennifer Lopez is the newly appointed chief creative officer of NUVOfv. The versatile J.Lo was announced last fall as a creative partner with the English-language Latino network, but her role was solidified Wednesday as NUVOfv held its upfront for advertisers and prepared for a re-launch of its programming in July. In an interview before the presentation, Lopez said about two years ago she was approached by NUVOfv to serve "probably more as the face of the network. But once we sat down and I started expressing my point of view about the programming and the network, it grew into something bigger." She said that, with the sup-

port of her own production company, she will be involved in marketing, branding and program development. "A network that reflects the modern Latino experience, but in English, must have the quality that everybody has," she said. Lopez will also be the subject of a 90-minute biographical special, the network said. Among new series announced will be "Gotta Dance," a behind-the-scenes look at the lives of professional dancers accompanying Lopez on a world concert tour. Asked if her on-camera presence is likely to extend beyond those programs, she said yes — "if we find a great show that I would star in anyway. But I always want to do what's right for the network as opposed to



This Jan. 26, 2013 file photo released by Verizon Wireless shows singer Jennifer Lopez at the Verizon Wireless meet Jennifer Lopez Flyaway Contest in Santa Monica, Calif.

Associated Press

using it as a vehicle for myself. That's not the point." Lopez laughed when asked if she would consider returning to "American Idol," where she spent two seasons as judge on a panel that is currently in turmoil. "I'm gonna perform there (Thursday) night," she replied. "I don't know what else is gonna happen." Looking ahead to the July 18 debut of the NUVOfv programming slate, she said, "We've given it enough of a facelift to launch, but we know we have work ahead of us." Other series announced include "Rodney's Joy," a reality show about Grammy Award-winning producer Rodney "Darkchild" Jerkins as he takes on a new client — his wife, Joy Enriquez — as well as "Mario Lopez: One on One," an interview show. □

‘American Psycho’ creators turn to crowd-funding

MARK KENNEDY
AP Drama Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Duncan Sheik is part of an unusual campaign on Kickstarter: Not to get his musical “American Psycho” up and running. It’s to make it killer. The Almeida Theatre in London has already agreed to mount the world stage premiere of Bret Easton Ellis’ novel this winter but Sheik wants to give it a \$150,000 infusion.

The Kickstarter campaign, which ends May 24, will go to fund things like more musicians, better sets and top-notch lights. As of Thursday morning, it had raised \$78,830.

“This allows us to up the ante in terms of what the production is going to entail,” the Grammy- and Tony-winning singer-songwriter said. “I think it’s about being able to do things in the space that make for a really cool immersive theatrical experience.”

The 1991 novel — made into a movie starring Christian Bale — follows a homicidal New York yuppie named Patrick Bateman who is obsessed with high-end clothes and beauty products even as he slashes his way through Manhattan. Bateman also fancies himself a music critic, but spews out mostly inane ruminations about Genesis and Huey Lewis and the News. The book for the stage version was written by playwright Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa and will be directed by Rupert Goold, the Almeida’s artistic director. Sheik has penned music and lyrics for 14 original songs, including “You Are What You Wear,” which can be heard on the crowd-funding site.

Regardless of whether it meets its Kickstarter goal or not, there will be one more workshop in June. Rehearsals begin in October, and the musical will begin performances on Dec. 2.

Sheik says the show — co-produced by the 325-seat Almeida and the Headlong Theatre company

in association with David Johnson and Jesse Singer for Act 4 Entertainment — will have a budget as much as seven times the Kickstarter goal.

Goold, who recently staged Patrick Stewart’s Stalinist “Macbeth” and a thrilling “Romeo and Juliet” in New York, said he is look-

show might then make it to Broadway — but first it has to be a hit in London.

“Of course, I think it should come to New York, but I also know we have to get it up onstage and have it be this amazingly mind-bending experience for the audience for it to deserve to make that journey across



This May 3, 2012 file photo shows Duncan Sheik at a special screening of “Hick” in New York.
Associated Press

ing forward to “bringing this extraordinarily iconic, yet funny and indeed deeply complex book to the stage at the Almeida.”

The project has given Sheik, who had the 1996 smash-hit single “Barely Breathing” and is the songwriter of the Tony-winning musical “Spring Awakening,” a chance to delve into ‘80s electronic music.

“This allowed me to take my love of drum machines and analog synthesizers and different kinds of technology and really get much more deeply into using those as the compositional tools. It’s been something I’ve wanted to do for a long time and this was a great opportunity to jump in the pool,” he said.

He has reached out to Tears for Fears, Phil Collins, Lewis and New Order for permission to use their songs, too. He hopes the

the Atlantic.”

The use of Kickstarter to supplement a production is unusual. Most who tap the crowd-funding site — actor and writer Zach Braff raised \$2 million to fund a follow-up to “Garden State” and Rob Thomas got \$5.7 million to finance a movie of “Veronica Mars” — do so to get their projects off the ground, not to augment them. Sheik has plenty on his plate besides “American Psycho.” He has been working on musical adaptations of “The Nightingale,” “Because of Winn-Dixie” and “Alice in Wonderland,” as well as plans for a new album.

He recently tweeted the song list for the new CD, an act he admits was as much for him as for his fans: “It forces me to get it done,” he said with a laugh. “There’s a method to my madness.” □



This image released by Christie’s auction house on Friday April 12, 2013, shows a Jean-Michel Basquiat painting titled “Dustheads” that could sell for as much as \$35 million at a May 15 auction.
Associated Press

Basquiat painting fetches record \$48.8M in N.Y.

NEW YORK (AP) — A Jean-Michel Basquiat painting has set a new auction record for the graffiti artist at a sale of postwar and contemporary art in New York.

Christie’s says “Dustheads” sold for \$48.8 million on Wednesday.

His “Untitled,” a painting of a black fisherman, held the previous record when it sold for \$26.4 million last November.

Also breaking world auction prices for artists were works Roy Lichtenstein and Jackson Pollock.

Lichtenstein’s “Woman with Flowered Hat” fetched \$56 million. A classic example of pop art, the 1963 painting is based on Pablo Picasso’s portrait of his lover Dora Maar. An important drip painting by Pollock, “Number 19,” realized a record \$58.3 million.

Christie’s says Wednesday’s auction brought in \$495 million, the highest total at any art auction. □

Mercedes Sosa documentary to screen in Argentina

VALERIA AGIS
Associated Press

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina

(AP) — Musician David Byrne of the Talking Heads and Latin American singers including Pablo Milanes and Charly Garcia remember the late, great artist Mercedes Sosa in a new Spanish-language documentary about her life.

“Mercedes Sosa: la voz de Latinoamérica,” or “Mercedes Sosa: The Voice of Latin America,” was directed by Rodrigo Vila of Argentina. It screens in her native Argentina on June 6.

The film received top prize from the public at Panama’s International Film Festival in April.

The documentary was the

idea of Sosa’s only child, Fabian Matus, who was also the project’s producer.

Sosa, who died in 2009 at age 74, was known for her huge voice and trademark song, “Gracias a la Vida.” She was a leading leftist voice inspiring people who opposed South America’s military dictatorships of the 1970s. □



Cascading Confessions



MAUREEN DOWD
© 2013 New York Times

Two of the hot topics trending on Twitter Tuesday were Angelina Jolie and the IRS. Beauty and the Beast. Jolie stunned the world with a New York Times op-ed article explaining why she had decided to have a preventive double mastectomy once she learned that she has the BRCA1 gene, which spikes the risk for breast and ovarian cancers. The actress was close to her mother, who died at 56 after battling cancer for nearly a decade, and she wrote that she "will do anything" to be with her own children as long as she can. "I started with the breasts, as my risk of breast cancer is higher than my risk of ovarian cancer, and the surgery is more complex," she wrote, adding that "I do not feel any less of a woman. I feel empowered that I made a strong choice that in no way diminishes my femininity." I had to keep checking the byline to make sure the piece was really by Angelina Jolie. She has been the embodiment of physical perfection for so long – a fierce, tattooed warrior and seductress with a genuine wildness who made female action roles from Lara Croft to Mrs. Smith to Evelyn Salt absolutely believable. So it was hard to read about the pain caused by the genetic imperfections lurking beneath that lush perfection, a curveball from one celebrated for her curves. Jolie, 37, is a famous crusader for refugees. She has also had other, more noirish shades to her image, from wearing Billy Bob Thornton's blood in a vial around her neck to drugs, cutting, knife-collecting and depression to shoplifting Brad Pitt from America's sweetheart to the "Saturday Night Live" parody that presents the serial adopter and mother of six as a stalker of babies. She knows that she will face criticism for elitism, given that she has the money to get the more than \$3,000 BRCA testing and the best surgeons, while other women don't. Yet her courage in going public with the graphic details of her mutilation and reconstruction, even though she's part of an industry that considers a 10-pound weight gain a career catastrophe, makes her a real-life action heroine. Ever since Rock Hudson gave a face to AIDS and softened the position of Ronald Reagan, we have known it is possible for Hollywood stars to ameliorate the stigma of disease and spark

recognition, conversation and inspiration. Jolie's health revelation overshadowed another one in the same newspaper by the woman who would be the first female mayor of New York City. Christine Quinn, the council speaker and early leader to succeed Michael Bloomberg, told The Times' Kate Taylor about her descent – as a teenager trying to manage her mother's fatal breast cancer – into bulimia and alcoholism. In a classic Irish Catholic quid pro quo with the heavens, Quinn said she believed that if she could be the perfect daughter, thin and pretty, somehow her mother might be saved. "For a brief moment," she said of the early sensation of throwing up, "you've kind of expelled from your being the things that are making you feel bad." The shame was harder to expel. "Asking for help, going to the rehab, dealing with bulimia, cutting back on drinking, getting drinking out of my life altogether – all of that helped me put the pieces back together," she said, adding that the final piece was her marriage to her wife, Kim Catullo, a corporate lawyer from New Jersey. Unlike Jolie, Quinn faced a lot of skepticism about her motives for spilling her secrets, which will be chronicled in an upcoming campaign-season memoir. Clearly, she wanted to control the way the news got out rather than having it spread by her opponents in the mayor's race – one of whom may be Anthony Weiner, who has been on a revelatory and redemption odyssey of his own in The Times. And then there's her other rival, Bill de Blasio, whose wife has frankly shared her former life as a lesbian. She also wanted to sprinkle some humanity on an image that took hits when she appeared as "Mayor Dracula" on a winter cover of New York magazine and when she was skewered in an article in The Times in March about her screaming fits and volatile bursts of wrath and retaliation. Mayor Dracula has a bloody penchant for threatening to cut off the privates of those who get on her bad side. Perhaps realizing that her confession seemed more self-serving than public service, Quinn had a Q&A on Tuesday at Barnard with the college's president, Debora Spar, that ruled out any political questions. "I hope that what I share in this book is helpful, particularly to young women and girls who feel stuck," Quinn said. She certainly hopes the book is helpful to one 46-year-old woman who feels stuck, castigated as an arrogant bully who moves this way and that, going as far to the left as she can without losing Mike Bloomberg, and fundamentally not believing in anything. With Chris Christie, his admission that he had lap-band surgery under an assumed name to curb his obesity is a second-tier story. The first-tier story is that he's a guy who takes no guff. Christine Quinn needs a first-tier story. □



A Visit To Yemen's Zoo



THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN
© 2013 New York Times

SANAA, Yemen – Arriving in Yemen last week, I had an experience I'd never had before. I drove from the airport into Sanaa, the capital, on the main thoroughfare, through a raging torrent of water. I was staying in the old city, a United Nations World Heritage site, which is accessed primarily by an ancient, moat-like road, known as the Sailah. It used to be made of dirt, shrub and pepper trees, which for generations absorbed water in the rainy season, although in downpours it would still flood. But, in 1995, at Yemen's request, the United States paid to have it paved. Because Yemenis have largely deforested all the mountains around Sanaa, the lack of trees, vegetation and topsoil means the rainwater now rushes off the mountains, enters the paved city and finds its way to the paved Sailah, turning the road into a rushing aqueduct. Our SUV eventually made it upstream to our hotel, giving a whole new meaning to the expression "we sailed into town." The other day, it hailed in Sanaa, piling up in some spots like a winter snow to a degree no one could remember. Meanwhile, up north, the most violent rainstorms in 25 years in Saudi Arabia just killed 13 Saudis in flooding and had television airing "footage of people clinging to trees and cars trapped by water," the BBC reported. It is impossible to say if these more powerful storms are the result of global warming, which is expected to make the hot hotter, the drier dryer and the wets wetter in certain areas.

What is not in doubt is that something is changing. Yemeni farmers traditionally divided up their growing season into 13-day increments for each aspect of planting and harvesting. "That is how dependable the summer rains were – but not anymore," said Abdul Rahman al-Eryani, Yemen's former minister of water and environment. They have become both more erratic and more violent. What also is not in doubt is that these weather changes are adding to the stress on frail infrastructure across the Arab world. This, combined with continued high population growth, is helping to fuel the Arab uprisings against the old Arab regimes and adding to the challenges for the new ones. For instance, the water table here in Sanaa has fallen so low from overdrilling, and has dried out the bedrock sandstone so much that it appears to be triggering geological faults, said Eryani. Sanaa just built a new airport terminal, but, while it was under construction, a fault opened underneath it, extending for miles and requiring a new injection of concrete to keep it stable. Most of the old generation of Arab leaders never gave much thought to natural capital: the forests, shrubs and ecosystems that naturally store water, prevent runoff, flooding and silting. The new generation will have to be environmentalists, otherwise their new politics will be overwhelmed by environmental stresses. Yemen is the leading edge of this trend. In 2009, Eryani encouraged then-President Ali Abdullah Saleh to name the endangered Arabian leopard as Yemen's "national animal," in hopes of preventing its extinction and promoting more environmental awareness. (Where the wildlife thrives, the people usually thrive.) "The Arabian leopard is at the top of the food chain here," explained Eryani, "so if we can keep it alive in the wild, it is a strong indicator that the ecosystem is still intact." As the biggest

predator, the Arabian leopard can survive only if the antelope, the rabbits, the partridges, gazelles, ibex and hyrax that it feeds on also survive. Those animals, in turn, need a healthy ecosystem of springs, shrub lands, topsoil and forests. Not surprisingly, since all of those are disappearing, so, too, are the leopards. In 2009, an American teacher in Yemen, David Stanton, set up a foundation here to protect endangered wildlife, focusing on the leopards. We met the other day outside the leopard zone at the Sanaa Zoo to discuss their future, while one of these sleek animals lounged on a shelf in his cage – waiting for his daily diet of donkey meat. "Generally speaking, the Arabian Peninsula is drying," said Stanton, and while the Arabian leopard can roam wide areas for a long time without water, their prey cannot. "So when you destroy the habitat of the prey, you destroy the habitat of the predators." Stanton started his work before the democracy revolution here in 2011, and back then, he recalled, "people would come to me and say: 'Why are you protecting leopards when we have leopards in the government?'" Of course, they were right. Arab dictators were at the top of the food chain in their countries – the ultimate predators. Eventually, though, they and their cronies and families ate so much themselves – while also despoiling their natural capital – that there was too little left for the rest of their burgeoning populations and their people revolted. The governments experiencing Arab awakenings, though, will never sustainably rebuild their countries' human capital if they don't also rebuild their natural capital. If you visit Yemen in five years and hear that the Arabian leopards are extinct, you'll know the revolution here failed. But if you hear that the leopard population is on the rise again, there is a high likelihood its people will be as well. Watch the leopards. □

Two musical minds seek different kind of mogul

JENNA WORTHAM

© 2013 New York Times

LOS ANGELES – Record producer Jimmy Iovine and his business partner Dr. Dre have a keen eye for talent. After all, Iovine discovered Dr. Dre when he was just Andre Young, and between them, the two have jump-started the careers of stars ranging from Lady Gaga to 50 Cent to the Black Eyed Peas.

Now they think they can help create the next Steve Jobs.

The music moguls, who founded the wildly popular Beats headphone business, are giving \$70 million to the University of Southern California to create a degree that blends business, marketing, product development, design and liberal arts. The gift is relatively modest, as donations to universities go. But the founders' ambitions are lofty, as they explained in an interview Monday in the elaborate presidential dining room on the lush USC campus.

"If the next startup that becomes Facebook happens to be one of our kids, that's what we are looking for," said Iovine, an energetic 60-year-old dressed in his trademark uniform of T-shirt and fitted jeans, faded baseball hat and blue-tinted eyeglasses.

Like many celebrities, Iovine and Dr. Dre have been seduced by the siren call of the tech world, which has lured celebrities like Justin Bieber, Tyra Banks and Leonardo DiCaprio to finance a startup or develop an idea. They have had more success with most with Beats, a private company that they say has \$1 billion in sales annually.

Still, the world of academia is far from familiar to Iovine and Dr. Dre. Neither went to college. And during the interview, Iovine confessed more than once that he was "out of my depth" when it came to discussing details of the program. He referred those questions to Erica Muhl, dean of the university's fine arts school, who will be the inaugural director of the program

and in charge of devising the curriculum, selecting professors and reviewing applications.

Dr. Dre, 48, svelte and relaxed in black jeans and a black sweater that just barely concealed a faded forearm tattoo, has an easy rapport with Iovine and was content to let him do most of the talking. The rapper nodded often, ate chocolate chip cookies with evident pleasure and chimed in occasionally. When he did, he chose his words carefully.

As a rapper, Dr. Dre was lauded for his blend of ag-

future chief executives.

It doesn't matter whether it is the next Gwen Stefani, Iovine said, whom he signed at 19, or recruiting and nurturing the next Marissa Mayer.

"Talent is talent," he said.

The details of the four-year program, officially the USC Jimmy Iovine and Andre Young Academy for Arts, Technology and the Business of Innovation, are still being completed. The first class of 25 students will enter in fall 2014, selected for their academic achievement, the university said, as well as their ability for

career," Dr. Dre said.

Part of the endowment includes several full scholarships, he said, to help a financially disadvantaged students to "go on to do something that could potentially change the world."

Still, the \$70 million endowment, to which Iovine and Dr. Dre contributed equally, does not rank high among gifts to universities; for example, in 2012, Stanford raised more than \$1 billion from donors, \$304.3 million of which was designated for research and programs.

institution," she said. "It's certainly noteworthy."

In the rarefied tech world, \$70 million is a drop in the bucket. Last May, Evernote, a note-taking app, raised the same amount in a round of venture capital. But C.L. Max Nikias, the university's president, said the size of the gift would fully support the new program and would leave a legacy that would "make a difference in society."

The idea for the program came to Iovine and Dr. Dre not long after creating the Beats company, when they found themselves with



From left: Dr. Dre and his business partner Jimmy Iovine, a record producer, Erica Muhl, dean of University of Southern California's fine arts school, and C. L. Max Nikias, the university's president, on the USC campus in Los Angeles, May 13, 2013.

(Emily Berl/The New York Times)

ile West Coast lyrics and rich, blunt beats; asked if he ever expected as a young performer that he would help start a university program, he leaned forward and laughed long and hard.

"Never in a million years," he said. But he and Iovine are betting that their instinct and keen ears – which helped Iovine find and sign Dr. Dre who, in turn, ferreted out Snoop Dogg and Eminem when they were budding musicians – will help them find

"original thought."

At the core of the curriculum is something called "the Garage," which will require seniors to essentially set up a business prototype. It appears to be inspired by technology incubators like Y-Combinator and universities like Stanford that encourage students to develop and pitch startup ideas as class assignments.

"I feel like this is the biggest, most exciting and probably the most important thing that I've done in my

USC has received larger gifts from other donors in recent years. But Rae Goldsmith, the vice president for resources of the Council of Advancement and Support of Education, which tracks donations above \$100 million to colleges and universities, said that regardless of the size the donation was meaningful because it was rare for donors to establish new departments and courses of study. "This kind of gift can be helpful in achieving one overall goal of the

a problem familiar to Silicon Valley entrepreneurs: the rapidly depleting reservoir of potential employees, including software engineers and marketing savants.

"It came out of us trying to find people to work for us," Iovine said.

They hope that the program will supply not only future employees for Beats' current business but also for a new venture, a streaming music service, Beats Music, that is expected to make its debut later this year. □